



Ladies Up Front

Rachel Sessions

I was born on Kauai in the 1970s and I was exposed to the beautiful ancient art of Polynesian Fire Dancing at a very young age. Ancient Aztecs performed a fire dance dedicated to Xiuhtecuhtli, the god of fire.[1] . In Bali, the Angel Dance and the Fire Dance, regularly performed for tourists, have origins in ancient rituals. Both the Angel Dance and the Fire Dance originated in a trance ritual called the sanghyang, a ritual dance “performed to ward off witches at the time of an epidemic.”[2] Also known as the “horse dance” men perform the dance by holding rods representing horses, while leaping around burning coconut husks, and walking through the flames. French Polynesia, Antigua, Cuba and Saint Lucia are other locations where fire dances are recreated for tourists. The Siddha Jats of the Thar Desert in India perform traditional fire dances as part of the Spring festival.

Modern fire shows vary greatly, from performances choreographed to music, to street style shows with varying levels of audience interaction and participation. Fire performance typically involves tools or other objects made with one or more wicks, which are designed to sustain a flame without being consumed. Modern fire shows can use a very wide range of fire skills and props. Since the mid-1990s fire performance has grown in popularity. This growth has occurred both in the hobby and the professional skills that are seen. Fire performances have become widespread at raves, nightclubs, beach parties, and music festivals.



The Burning Man festival has also attributed to the growth and awareness of fire performance with its fire-oriented art. Fire performance has become increasingly popular as entertainment at corporate events, street festivals, celebration events and as a precursor to firework displays.

I started fire dancing over 20 years ago and my first props were Poi, but I soon discovered a lot of new and exciting props and I now make all my own fire toys. As a lady rider I knew I could incorporate motorcycles into my fire dancing. I will never forget when I told my husband that I was going to make giant butterfly/fairy wings and strap them to my back and then ride my Harley. He said I was crazy but two weeks later he was in the shop with me



and we were welding them together. The design took a lot of little different kinds of engineering and a bit of trial and error but we finally got it right.

Obviously playing with fire can be very dangerous but if you respect it, it can be such a beautiful expression. Fire dancing for me is a very spiritual thing and helps me to connect to the earth. Like music, it breaks down barriers between people. Fire can touch an old, raw part of a soul—a part that the person might not have been aware was even there.

Like fire dancing, riding my motorcycle is also an expression of my freedom and it is also something that touches one's soul. I was first introduced to riding at the young impressionable age of 13 when my mom remarried a great guy and he had lots of motorcycles.

He had all kinds of bikes but my favorite was the 1953 Indian Chief, I was in total awe of that bike and just fell in love with motorcycles.

I was flying for American Airlines in 1999 when I heard that Indian was coming back and with very little hesitation quit my job to sell Indian Motorcycles. I spent some of the best years of my life at the dealership in Dallas that I worked for and it was huge. We sold Bourgets, Wild West Bikes and had a whole fleet of Harley



Davidsons. I was like a kid in a candy store.

After working there for a year or so I wanted to know more, so I took a technician course and got certified. Back then things were more mechanical, now we have all these special electronic sensors and switches and it is a bit more difficult to work on bikes but I do just fine with the basics. I love being able to work on my own bike. After Indian closed down I went to work for the infamous Rick Fairless and what was still Easy Riders but has now changed to Strockers Dallas. That was another great adventure that I will never forget and I am honored that I had the opportunity to work with such amazing people.

Everyone loves the fire dances and just about everyone loves motorcycles so putting them together seemed like a great marriage of fun and excitement

to me. I have performed these shows for almost any kind of different celebrations from kids parties, biker parties, rock concerts and churches to you name it. Everyone seems to love the fire dances. If you would like to see more pictures or find out what is coming up, please visit my website the firedancer.com for more information. We would love to come and make your party an incredible experience for all of your guests.

MOTORCYCLE LICENSE TESTING ONLY

KNOW HOW TO RIDE?
 DON'T NEED TO LEARN HOW TO BALANCE OR STOP QUICK?
THEN THIS IS FOR YOU !!!
 TEST FEE \$30 WITH YOUR BIKE
 \$50 WITH MY BIKE (250 NIGHTHAWK)

Old Ft. Collins Downtown Airport Runway
 1800 Airway Ave. Ft. Collins. 80524

ALL TESTS BY APPT. ONLY. (970) 690-8846
 Roy Hansen

BIKERS INNER CIRCLE



 

LIVE 24/7 BIKER RADIO
 RALLY COVERAGE
 BIKER MUSIC | BIKER BANDS

888.498.2123

WWW.BICRADIO.NET

Vickie Mullin

portrait
 performance
 & event
 photography

720-343-9907



Come As You Ride
 Friday Nights at 7:30 P.M.
 in the Chapel at Riverside
 2411 Alcott St.
 Denver CO 80211
 I-25 and 23rd Ave. Exit 211

(720) 635-2897
 www.churchinthewind.org
 Pastor Gary and
 Mrs. Diana Davis

Bible Studies • Weddings
 Funerals & Memorials