

CABARET; COMBO OF SINGING, DANCING & COMEDY IN NIGHTCLUB IN PUB, CASINO OR HOTEL

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ABSTRACT

Cabaret is a form of entertainment that originated in France in the late 19th century; it includes a variety of acts such as singing, dancing, comedy, and theatre, with a Master of Ceremonies or Emcee acting as the host. Cabaret dance is a theatrical style of performance blending dance, music, and drama, typically performed in intimate venues like nightclubs or restaurants. Known for breaking the fourth wall, it often features strong audience interaction, elaborate costumes, storytelling, and hybrid dance elements like jazz, burlesque, and lyrical routines.

KEYWORDS: cabaret, striptease, burlesque.

OVERVIEW

Cabaret is entertainment held in a nightclub or restaurant while the audience eat or drink at tables. Cabaret is a form of theatrical entertainment featuring music, song, dance, recitation, or drama. The performance venue might be a pub, casino, hotel, restaurant, or nightclub with a stage for performances. The audience, often dining or drinking, does not typically dance but usually sits at tables. With its origins rooted in late 19th-century Paris, Cabaret has long been a vibrant and subversive

form of entertainment. Known for its blend of music, comedy, drama, and social commentary, cabaret quickly spread across Europe in the early twentieth century, evolving uniquely in each locale. Cabaret is a form of entertainment that originated in France in the late 19th century; it includes a variety of acts such as singing, dancing, comedy, and theatre, with a Master of Ceremonies or Emcee acting as the host. The first modern cabaret, Le Chat Noir was opened in 1881 by Rodolphe Salis.



Figure-1: Helen as Cabaret and Moulin Rouge in Paris.

Cabaret

It is likely began in France in the 1880s as small clubs featuring amateur acts and coarse humor aimed at bourgeois society. The first cabaret, Chat Noir, opened in 1881 in the Montmartre district of Paris and included poetry, shadow plays, songs, and comic skits. The first cabaret in the modern sense was Le Chat Noir in the bohemian neighborhood of Montmartre, created in 1881 by Rodolphe Salis, a theatrical agent and entrepreneur. It combined music and other entertainment with political commentary and satire. As an actress, **Helen** [Helen Ann Richardson Khan (Born 21 November 1938), Rangoon] frequently played bold, westernised antagonists in a number of films. In a career spanning over 70 years, she has been called the **Cabaret Queen** of Indian cinema and was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 2009. While both are theatrical variety shows, burlesque focuses on playful striptease, satire, and the art of the tease. Cabaret is a broader, mixed-genre performance that includes singing, comedy, and storytelling in an intimate setting. Today, the two styles frequently overlap in modern performance venues.

Burlesque

The Core Focus: Primarily centered on the "art of the tease," where performers slowly remove clothing as part of a choreographed, character-driven act.

Tone & Style: Heavily features social satire, comedy, and caricature, often using flashy costumes, feather fans, and props.

Performance: As noted by Things People Podcast on Facebook, burlesque involves "breaking the fourth wall,

where performers engage with the audience through eye contact and movements.

Cabaret

The Core Focus: A mixed-bag of stage variety. A typical show includes brief performances like live music, poetry, acrobatics, and drag, overseen by a host or Master of Ceremonies (MC).

Tone & Style: Emphasizes intimate storytelling, musical numbers, and political or social commentary.

Venue Setting: Usually takes place in small, intimate settings like a nightclub, restaurant, or casino where audiences sit at tables while drinking and dining. A striptease is a form of erotic entertainment where a performer gradually undresses in a provocative, seductive manner, often to music. The practice is typically associated with adult entertainment venues but traces its roots back to traditional burlesque performances.

The Performance: The essence of a striptease relies on the slow, deliberate removal of clothing to build anticipation, rather than simply getting undressed.

Alternative Names: Performers are commonly referred to as exotic dancers, burlesque dancers, or strippers.

Another, more formal or humorous term for a striptease artist is an ecdysiast.

Venues: These acts are regularly performed in strip clubs or music halls, and can sometimes be booked for private events like bachelor or bachelorette parties.



Figure-2: Burlesque & Striptese.

Striptese

A striptease is a form of erotic entertainment where a performer gradually undresses in a provocative, seductive manner, often to music. The practice is typically associated with adult entertainment venues but traces its roots back to traditional burlesque performances. A striptease is an erotic or exotic dance in which the performer gradually undresses, either partly or completely, in a seductive and sexually suggestive manner. The person who performs a striptease is commonly known as a "stripper", "exotic dancer", or "burlesque dancer".

CONCLUSION

Cabaret, striptease, and burlesque are related forms of theatrical and adult live entertainment. While all three involve performance, dance, and audience titillation, they differ significantly in their primary focus, level of nudity, and performance style.

➤ Cabaret: A mixed-genre format of intimate variety shows featuring music, comedy, storytelling, and singing, often hosted in small venues. As noted by the Difference Between platform, "cabaret has a variety of performances like music and dance in an intimate setting". While it can include burlesque

elements, the core of cabaret is vocal and comedic talent.

- Burlesque: This is an exaggerated theatrical form of variety show centered on satire, comedy, and slow, playful striptease. Burlesque focuses heavily on the "art of the tease" where delaying gratification through elaborate costumes and choreography is key.
- Striptease: The primary goal of striptease is the progressive removal of clothing to reveal the performer's body, typically to music. While it can be an element within a burlesque act, it is usually more direct and focused on explicit sensuality, often found in adult clubs.

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