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Last Work

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House

Feb 1—4 at 7:30pm

Running time: approx. 65 minutes, no intermission

By Ohad Naharin
Batsheva Dance Company

Lighting design by **Avi Yona Bueno (Bambi)**
Soundtrack design and edit by **Maxim Waratt**
Original music by **Grischa Lichtenberger**
Stage design by **Zohar Shoef**
Costume design by **Eri Nakamura**

Season Sponsor:

**Bloomberg
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*Leadership support for dance at BAM provided by
the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and
The Harkness Foundation for Dance.*

*Support for the Signature Artist Series provided
by Howard Gilman Foundation.*

*Major support for dance at BAM provided by
The SHS Foundation.*



William Barry



Yael Ben Ezer



Matan Cohen



Omri Drumlevich



Bret Easterling



Hsin-Yi Hsiang



Rani Lebzelter



Eri Nakamura



Ori Moshe Ofri



Rachael Osborne



Nitzan Ressler



Ian Robinson



Kyle Scheurich



Or Meir Schraiber



Maayan Sheinfeld



Yoni Simon



Bobbi Jene Smith



Zina (Natalya) Zinchenko

DANCERS

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Rani Lebzelter
Eri Nakamura
Ori Moshe Ofri

Rachael Osborne
Nitzan Ressler
Ian Robinson
Kyle Scheurich
Or Meir Schraiber
Maayan Sheinfeld
Yoni Simon
Bobbi Jene Smith
Zina (Natalya) Zinchenko

Assistants to Ohad Naharin and Maxim Waratt **Ariel Cohen, Guy Shomroni**

Production management **Pomegranate Arts**

Linda Brumbach, president and founder

Co-produced by Festival Montpellier Danse and Hellerau-European Center for the Arts, Dresden.
Supported by Batsheva New Works Fund and Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation, with special funding by the American Friends of Batsheva.

The 2017 North American Batsheva tour was made possible by the generous support from Israel's Office of Cultural Affairs in North America; Batsheva Dance Company is a recipient of the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project Touring Award, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Artistic director **Ohad Naharin**
Executive director **Dina Aldor**
Co-artistic director **Adi Salant**
Company manager & stage manager **Yaniv Nagar**
Senior rehearsal director **Luc Jacobs**

INTERNATIONAL TOURS

Director **Amit Hevrony**
Co-directors **as is Presenting Arts, Dalit Itai** and **Gal Canetti**
Producer **Naomi Friend**

Chief technical director **Roni Cohen**
Lighting **Yitzhak Assulin**
Sound **Dudi Bell**
Technician **Aliaksei Prezhyn**
Wardrobe **Hana Fiala**
Physiotherapist **Anton Mikhailov**

For information about the American Friends of Batsheva, please contact
Lisa Preiss Fried at lisa@batsheva.co.il or call 212.545.7182.

ADDITIONAL MUSIC

"Few Mysteries Solved in a Year of Contact" by Sagat
"Club Life" by Hysterics
"Crusty Juice" by MPIA3
"Volume VIP" by Monkey
"Tantrum" by Luminox



BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY has been critically acclaimed and popularly embraced as one of the foremost contemporary dance companies in the world. Together with its junior Batsheva Ensemble, the company boasts a roster of 34 dancers drawn from Israel and abroad. Batsheva maintains an extensive performance schedule locally and internationally with over 250 performances and over 100,000 spectators per year.

Batsheva Dance Company was founded in 1964 by the Baroness Batsheva de Rothschild, who enlisted Martha Graham as its first artistic adviser, a role that she held until 1975. Ohad Naharin assumed the role of artistic director in 1990 and propelled the company into a new era with his adventurous curatorial vision and distinctive choreographic voice. Naharin is also the originator of the innovative movement language, Gaga, which has enriched his extraordinary movement invention, revolutionized the company's training, and emerged as a growing international force in the larger field of movement practices for both dancers and non-dancers.

The Batsheva dancers take part in the creative processes in the studio and create themselves in the annual project "Batsheva Dancers Create" supported by the Michael Sela Fund for the Cultivation of Young Artists at Batsheva. Batsheva Dance Company is company-in-residence at the Suzanne Dellal Centre in Tel Aviv.

OHAD NAHARIN

Born in 1952 on Kibbutz Mizra, Ohad Naharin began his dance training with the Batsheva Dance Company in 1974. During his first year with the company, visiting choreographer Martha Graham singled out Naharin for his talent and invited him to join her own company in New York. While in New York, Naharin studied on a scholarship from America-Israel Cultural Foundation at the School of American Ballet, furthered his training at The Juilliard School, and polished his technique with master teachers Maggie Black and David Howard. He went on to perform internationally with Israel's Bat-Dor Dance Company and Maurice Béjart's Ballet du XXe Siècle in Brussels.

Naharin returned to New York in 1980, making his choreographic debut at the Kazuko Hirabayashi studio. That year, he formed the Ohad Naharin Dance Company with his wife, Mari Kajiwaru, who died of cancer in 2001. From 1980 until 1990, Naharin's company performed in New York and abroad to great critical acclaim. As his choreographic voice developed, he received commissions from world-renowned companies including Batsheva, Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company, and Nederlands Dans Theater.

Naharin was appointed artistic director of Batsheva Dance Company in 1990 and has served in this role except for the 2003–4 season, when he held the title of house choreographer. During his tenure with the company, Naharin has choreographed close to 30 works for Batsheva and its junior division, Batsheva—The Young Ensemble.

Naharin trained in music throughout his youth, and he has often used his musical prowess to amplify his choreographic impact. Naharin's compelling choreographic craft and inventive, supremely textured movement vocabulary have made him a favorite guest artist in dance companies around the world. His works have been performed by prominent companies and garnered him many awards and honors for his rich contributions to the field of dance—namely: Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the French government (1998), Bessie Awards (New York) for *Naharin's Virus* (2002) and *Anaphaza* (2004), a Doctor of Philosophy honoris causa by the Weizmann Institute of Science (2004), the Israel Prize for dance (2005), a Doctor of Philosophy honoris causa by the Hebrew University (2008), the EMET Prize in the category of Arts and Culture (together with Yair Vardi, 2009), the Samuel H. Scripps American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement (2009), a *Dance Magazine* Award (2009), an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from The Juilliard School in New York (2013), Honorary Fellowship by the Tel Aviv Museum (2014), an Honorary Fellowship by the Rupin Academic Center (2015), the Carina Ari Medal, Sweden (2016), the Award for Excellence in the

Arts in Israel, Harvard Club of Israel (2016), and the Danza & Danza Award (Italy) for *Three* (2016). This year Naharin takes part in the prestigious Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative, and will serve as mentor for Londiwe Khoza, a young dancer from South Africa.

DANCERS

WILLIAM BARRY was born in 1989 in New York. He graduated from Juilliard in 2011 and performed with Gallim Dance and KEIGWIN + COMPANY. He joined Batsheva Ensemble in 2011 and Batsheva Dance Company in August, 2012.

Yael Ben Ezer was born in 1995 in Tel-Aviv, studied at Tel Aviv School of the Arts, and graduated from Alon High School's dance department. She participated in the Excellence Programs of both Batsheva Dance Company and the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. During the summer of 2010 she participated in the "Dance is Culture" (Israel/Italy) project directed by Adi Salant and Mauro Astolfi. She joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2013.

MATAN COHEN, born in Haifa in 1993, studied at the Dance Department of Wizo High School for the Arts. He is the recipient of the honoring scholarship of Haifa Cultural Foundation (2011) and of the American Ballet Academy (2011—12). He graduated from the training program of Bikurey Ha'Itim and the Excellence Programs of both Batsheva Dance Company and the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. Cohen served in the IDF as a privileged outstanding dancer. He joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2013.

OMRI DRUMLEVICH was born in Kibbutz Ramat Rachel in 1992. He danced with Mehola Jerusalem and studied at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. Drumlevich participated in Batsheva Ensemble's Excellence Program. He joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2010 and Batsheva Dance Company in 2012.

BRET EASTERLING was born in the US in 1988. He studied at The Juilliard School where he graduated with a Hector Zaraspe Prize in

2010. While being involved in many school projects, he also performed with Andrea Miller's Gallim Dance. Easterling joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2010 and Batsheva Dance Company in August 2012.

HSIN-YI HSIANG was born in Taiwan in 1983. She received her bachelor of fine arts in Dance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she was awarded scholarships for four years. Hsiang relocated to New York City and joined LeeSaar The Company from fall 2007 to 2014. She joined the Batsheva Ensemble and then the Company in 2014.

RANI LEBZELTER was born in Israel in 1989. She studied at the Bustan School for the Performing Arts in Netanya. During 2009—10 she trained at the dancer's workshop in Kibbutz Ga'aton, and from 2009—11 she took part in the dance training course under the direction of Naomi Perlov and Ofir Dagan. In 2010 Rani participated in the Batsheva Dance Company Excellence Program directed by Hillel Kogan. She joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2012 and then the Company in September 2014.

ERI NAKAMURA was born in Japan in 1984. In 2002 she graduated from The Australian Ballet School in Melbourne. From 2003—07 she danced with the Victor Ullate Ballet Company in Madrid and between 2007—08 with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal under the artistic direction of Gradimir Pankov. Nakamura danced with Batsheva Dance Company between 2011—15 and rejoined in 2016. She designed the costumes for *Last Work* and *Three* by Naharin (2015), *And Still* by Danielle Agami (2015), and *Yag* by Ohad Naharin/*Adam* by Roy Assaf (2016).

ORI MOSHE OFRI was born in Israel in 1991. He graduated from the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance High School and joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2009 and Batsheva Dance Company in August 2010.

RACHAEL OSBORNE was born in Australia in 1980. She is a graduate of Queensland University of Technology (1999) in Brisbane,





Australia and was a member of the World Dance Company (2000) in Brisbane. She joined Batsheva Ensemble in 2001 and Batsheva Dance Company in 2003. Osborne danced in Sharon Eyal's company, L-E-V, from 2012—14 and has staged Ohad Naharin's work in companies around the world.

NITZAN RESSLER was born in Jerusalem in 1992. As a child she danced with Hora Jerusalem and studied at the Jerusalem Academy for Music and Dance High School. Nitzan is the recipient of the 2008—10 Israel-America Cultural Foundation education scholarship. She joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2010 and Batsheva Dance Company in August 2012.

IAN ROBINSON was born in the US in 1985. He graduated from New York University and performed with Mikhail Baryshnikov's Hell's Kitchen Dance, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal, Sydney Dance Company, and Aszure Barton & Artists. Robinson joined Batsheva Dance Company in August 2009. Robinson was the recipient of the 2016 Yair Shapira Prize.

KYLE SCHEURICH was born in 1992 in New York. In 2010 he graduated from Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School for Music & Art and the Performing Arts. During his time at LaGuardia High School he also studied at Manhattan Youth Ballet under the direction of François Perron. He graduated from The Juilliard School and joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2014.

OR MEIR SCHRAIBER was born in 1992. He studied at the Jerusalem Academy for Music and Dance High School, and danced with Hora Jerusalem from the age of eight. He took part in Batsheva Dance Company's Excellence program. He joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2010 and the Company in August 2013.

MAAYAN SHEINFELD was born in 1992. She graduated from the Thelma Yellin High School for the Arts. Sheinfeld is the recipient of the 2007—10 Sharet Fund scholarship. She participated in a summer dance courses in Prague, Salzburg,

and New York's Juilliard School and joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2010 and Batsheva Dance Company in August 2012.

YONI (YONATAN) SIMON was born in 1995 and is a graduate of the dance department at the Ironi Alef High School in Tel Aviv. During his studies, he participated in a student exchange program with the de Kunsthumaniora school in Belgium. Simon participated in the Batsheva Excellence Program (2011—14) as well as in the KCDC Excellence Program (2011—12). He was the recipient of a full scholarship to the American Academy of Ballet Summer Course in 2013. Simon serves in the IDF as a privileged outstanding dancer. He joined the Batsheva Ensemble as an apprentice in 2014 and as a dancer in 2015. He joined Batsheva Dance Company in 2016.

BOBBI JENE SMITH was born in Centerville, IA. From 2005—14 she was a member of the Batsheva Dance Company and rejoined in 2017. She is an alumnus of The Juilliard School, North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. Her choreography and solo work has been presented by the Batsheva Dance Company, PS 122, Israel Museum, Luminato Festival, The Wild Project, Machol Shalem, Sacramento Ballet, CCA, San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, New York University, and The Juilliard School. Smith is a certified GAGA teacher and has taught Ohad Naharin's repertory in schools and universities around the world.

ZINA (NATALYA) ZINCHENKO was born in Moscow in 1987. She started dancing at the contemporary dance school of Nikolay Ogryzkov (1999—2004). Zinchenko graduated from Rotterdam Dance Academy (Codarts) in November 2007. She danced with Gailli Dance (2006—09) and Noord Nederlandse Dans (2009—11). She joined the Batsheva Ensemble in 2011 and Batsheva Dance Company in August 2012.

POMEGRANATE ARTS is an independent production company dedicated to the development of international contemporary performing arts projects. Since its inception,

Pomegranate Arts has conceived, produced, or represented projects by Philip Glass, Laurie Anderson, Lucinda Childs, Batsheva Dance Company, London's Improbable Theatre, Sankai Juku, Taylor Mac, Dan Zanes, Bassem Youssef, and Goran Bregovic. Special projects include the revival of Robert Wilson, Philip Glass, and Lucinda Childs' Olivier award-winning production of *Einstein on the Beach*; *Dracula: The Music and Film* with Philip Glass and the Kronos Quartet; the music theater work *Shockheaded Peter*; Brazilian vocalist Virginia Rodrigues; Drama Desk Award winning *Charlie Victor Romeo*; *Healing the Divide, A Concert for Peace and Reconciliation*, presented by Philip Glass and Richard Gere; and Hal Willner's *Came So Far For Beauty, An Evening of Leonard Cohen Songs*. Current and upcoming projects include the international tour of *Available Light* by John Adams, Lucinda Childs, and Frank Gehry; Taylor Mac's *A 24-Decade History of Popular Music*, Bassem Youssef's *The Joke Is Mightier than the Sword*, and the North American tours of Batsheva Dance Company's *Last Work* and Sankai Juku's *Meguri*.

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BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY:

POMEGRANATE ARTS

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