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Performing Arts

2008-09

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PRESENTS

Batsheva Dance Company Three

TUE, FEB 10 | 8 PM Mershon Auditorium

CREDITS

This program is presented at the Wexner Center in association with **BalletMet** and in conjunction with **Israel@6o** programs in Columbus.

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2008–09 performing arts season is generously provided by **Huntington Bank** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

Three has been funded by **New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project (NDP)**, with generous support by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the

Ford Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the MetLife Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation.

Batsheva Dance Company's 2009 North America tour is supported by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

All performing arts programs and events also receive support from the Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation and Wexner Center members, as well as from the Greater Columbus Arts Council, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, and the Ohio Arts Council.

Accommodations are provided by The Blackwell Inn.

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PROGRAM

Batsheva Dance Company Three

by Ohad Naharin

Music

"Bellus": J. S. Bach, Goldberg Variations, performed by Glenn Gould "Humus": Brian Eno, Neroli

"Secus": Chari Chari, Kid 606 + Rayon (mix: Stefan Ferry), AGF, Fennesz, Kaho Naa Pyar Hai, Seefeel, and the Beach Boys

Performers

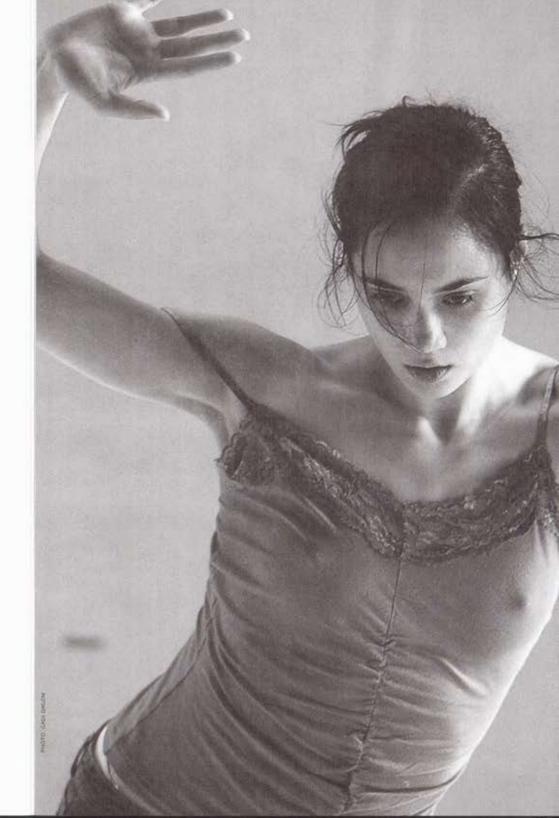
Yaniy Abraham Andrea Martini Danielle Agami Bosmat Nossan Nir Benita Rachael Osborne Guy Shomroni Caroline Boussard Bobbi Smith Matan David Tom Weinberger Ivar Elezra Ariel Freedman Adi Zlatin Shani Garfinkel Erez Zohar

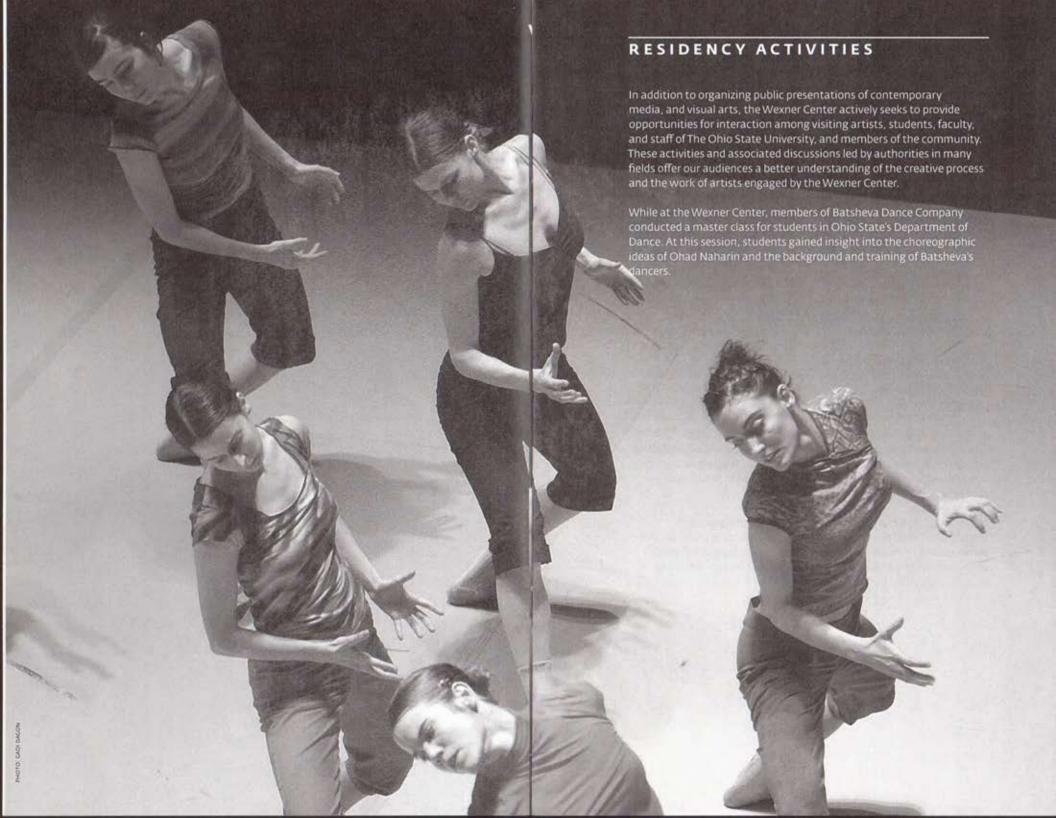
Douglas Letheren

Preperformance Talk

The Wexner Center thanks John Giffin, a choreographer and professor in Ohio State's Department of Dance, for offering our audience a thoughtful introduction to *Three* and the work of Batsheva Dance Company.

70 minutes, no intermission





ABOUT THE COMPANY

Batsheva Dance Company was founded in 1964 by Martha Graham and Baroness Batsheva De Rothschild. Batsheva's artistic integrity and innovation have earned it a reputation as one of the most inspirational and sought after dance companies—a true champion on the global map of performing arts. Batsheva operates throughout the year with its two companies (Batsheva Dance Company and the junior Batsheva Ensemble) and 40 dancers. With 250 annual performances in Israel and around the world, the company is considered Israel's leading cultural ambassador. Batsheva is applauded worldwide in the most prestigious theaters and festivals, including Lincoln Center, BAM's Next Wave Festival, Montpellier Danse, Berlin Festival, and many others. This is Batsheva's fourth visit to the Wexner Center, following appearances in March 1998. March 2003. and October 2006.

The company includes dancers from Israel and abroad who are encouraged to affirm their distinct creative gifts either in the rehearsal process or in the creation of their own works as part of the ongoing Batsheva Dancers Create series. Many of Batsheva's dancers developed their skills during an extensive training period in the junior company, the Batsheva Ensemble. The ensemble serves as a greenhouse for the next generation of dancers and choreographers, dedicating the majority of its time to Batsheva's comprehensive outreach and education program.

As the result of a unique collaboration between Sweden's National Riksteatern and Batsheva, a third Batsheva company, with an additional international cast of 16 dancers, performed Ohad Naharin's *Kamuyot* for school children and young adults throughout Sweden from December 2007 through May 2008.

Led by artistic director Ohad Naharin, and house choreographer Sharon Eyal, the company's 65 members—dancers, technical crew, and administration—are driven by a common vision to excel in art and to strengthen common human values through the power of creativity. To learn more about Batsheva, please visit batsheva.org.

Ohad Naharin (Choreographer and Artistic Director) began his training as a dancer with the Batsheva Dance Company. He came to New York one year later at the invitation of Martha Graham to join her company and was awarded a scholarship to attend the School of American Ballet. After a year with the Martha Graham Dance Company, he began studies at the Juilliard School of Music, as well as with Maggie Black and David Howard. He then joined the Maurice Béjart Company in Brussels for one season and made his choreographic debut in 1980 at the Kazuko Hirabayashi studio in New York. From 1980 to 1990 he performed and worked in New York, where he lived with his wife, dancer Mari Kajiwara, who died of cancer in 2001. In 1990 he was appointed artistic director of the Batsheva Dance Company.

Naharin has received many awards and honors including the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government (1998), two New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Awards (for Naharin's Virus at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 2002 and for Anaphaza at the Lincoln Center Festival in 2003), a Doctor of Philosophy honoris causa from the Weizmann Institute of Science in 2004, and the prestigious Israel Prize for dance in 2005. Naharin's works have been performed by many companies throughout the world including Nederlands Dans Theater, Frankfurt Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet, Ballet Nacional de España (Madrid), Cullberg Ballet (Sweden), and the Opera National de Paris, among others.

Batsheva Dance Company

Artistic Director: Ohad Naharin

Executive Director and Coartistic Director: Naomi Bloch Fortis

House Choreographer: Sharon Eval

Batsheva Company Manager and Stage Manager: Yaniy Nagar

Rehearsal Director: Luc Iacobs

Assistants to Rehearsal Director: Danielle Agami and Rachael Osborne

Technical Director: Roni Cohen Chief Electrician: Yitzhak Assulin

Sound: David Bell and Oren Cohen

Technicians: Daniel Feinshten and Yuval Glikman Wardrobe: Eyal Goldberg and Omer Yefman

Physiotherapists: Dudi Kishban and Martin Krahl

Photographer: Gadi Dagon

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International Tour Management: Dina Aldor, Aladdin Ltd.

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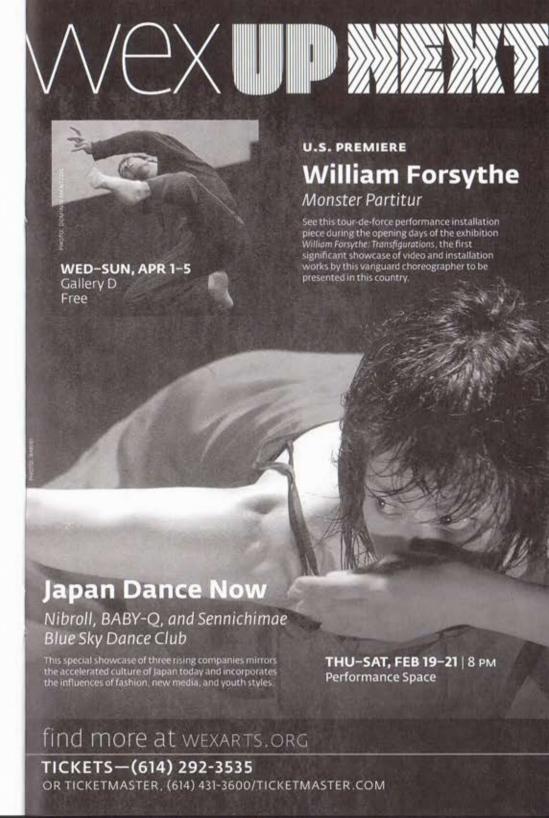
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Batsheva Dance Company wishes to acknowledge the generosity of the American Friends of Batsheva, 220 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1301, New York, NY 10001, tel. 212-545-7182, e-mail afo@batsheva.co.il.

All donations to the American Friends of Batsheva are tax deductible. Please call or e-mail for more information

Batsheva Dance Company celebrates the America Israel Cultural Foundation (AICF) 70th anniversary. We wish to congratulate AICF on its remarkable impact on Israeli culture throughout the years and to acknowledge AICF's significant contribution to Batsheva's development and growth.



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