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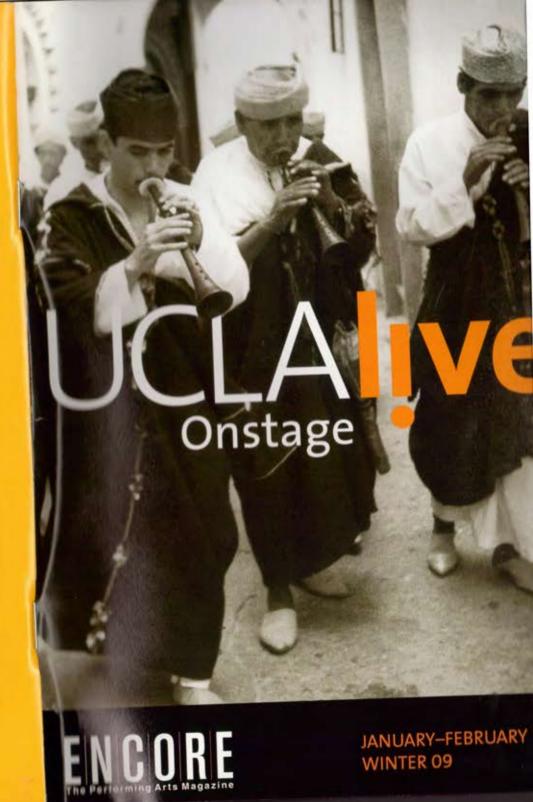




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## **BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY**

#### MAX

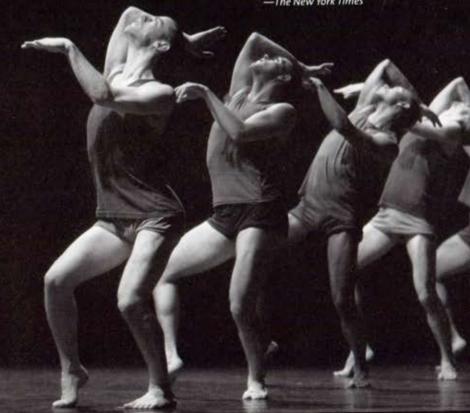
One of the most influential and consistently fresh and exciting dance companies on the planet.

Israel's Batsheva, returns with its latest creation.

Sat, Feb 28 at 8pm Sun, Mar 1 at 7pm Royce Hall

> "Raw and **elegant**, violent and tender... and always **powerful**."

-The New York Times



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Feb 28-Mar 1, 2009 at 8pm Royce Hall

> Running time is 1 hour with no intermission

## Batsheva Dance Company

Ohad Naharin Artistic Director

Dancers
Yaniv Abraham
Nir Benita
Caroline Boussard
Matan David
Iyar Elezra
Bosmat Nossan
Rachael Osborne
Guy Shomroni
Bobbi Smith
Tom Weinberger

Maxim Waratt Original Music Rakefet Levi Costume Design Avi Yona Bueno (Bambi) Lighting Design Ohad Fishof Music Production & Mix Moshe Shasho Sound Design Binya Reches Mastering

Supported by the James A. Doolittle Endowment

#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

Ohad Naharin's recent ensemble work for 10 dancers continues his research into the roots, origins and essence of movement. With each individual dancer compressing utmost attention inward, MAX offers a highly refined choreography investigating notions of structure, time and space. Renowned for their exceptionally sophisticated movement capabilities and for their individual talents, Batsheva's dancers create great exquisite beauty on stage to original music composed and presented by Maxim Waratt.

Batsheva's artistic integrity and innovation have established its reputation as one of the most inspirational and sought-after companies. It operates throughout the year with 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 more.

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 during the ongoing Batsheva Dancers Create series.

PALOMAR

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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.

The 2007/2008 performance season brought with it an additional international cast of 16 dancers. This third Batsheva company will perform Ohad Naharin's Kamuyot to audiences of school children and young adults throughout Sweden between December 2007 and May 2008. This special project is the result of a unique collaboration between Sweden's National Riksteatern and Batsheva.

Led by artistic director Ohad Naharin, together with 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.

Batsheva Dance Company was founded in 1964 by Martha Graham and Baroness Batsheva De Rothschild. To learn more about Batsheva, please visit: www.batsheva.org

#### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ohad Naharin Artistic Director Naharin began his training as a dancer with the Batsheva Dance Company in 1974. He came to New York one year later at the invitation of Martha Graham to join her company, as well as to a scholarship to the School of American Ballet. After a year with the Martha Graham Dance Company, he continued his studies at The Juilliard School as well as with Maggie Black and David Howard. He then joined the Maurice Bejart Company in Brussels for one season and made his choreographic debut in 1980 in the Kazuko Hirabayashi studio in New York.

From 1980 to 1990 he performed and worked in New York, where he lived with his wife, the dancer Mari Kajiwara, who died of cancer in 2001. In 1990 he was appointed artistic director of the Batsheva Dance Company.

Naharin has been the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government in 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 by the Weizmann Institute of Science in 2004, and the prestigious Israel Prize for dance in 2005.

Naharin's works are performed by many companies throughout the world, including Nederlands Dans Theater, Frankfurt Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet, Ballet Nacional d'Espana (Madrid), Cullberg Ballet (Sweden), and the Opera National de Paris, among others.

Acknowledgements

Ohad Naharin Artistic Director
Naomi Bloch Fortis Executive Director, Co-Artistic Director
Sharon Eyal House Choreographer
Eldad Mannheim Batsheva Company Manager & Stage Manager
Luc Jacobs Rehearsal Director
Danielle Agami, Rachael Osborne Assistants to Rehearsal Director
Roni Cohen Technical Director
Gadi Glik Chief Electrician
David Bell Sound

Omer Yefman Wardrobe Gadi Dagon Photographer

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Batsheva Dance Company wishes to thank the generosity of the American Friends of Batsheva:

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(212) 545-7182 telephone

afo@batsheva.co.il. email

All donations to the American Friends of Batsheva are tax deductible, Please call or email for more information.

Batsheva Dance Company celebrates with the America Israel Cultural Foundation (AICF) its 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.

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



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