

**ANNUAL REPORT BATSHEVA**  
**DANCE COMPANY 2017**

**דוח שנתי להקת מחול**

**בת-שבע (ע"ר)**



**"I've learned that listening to the body is a lot more meaningful than telling it what to do. One can get from dancing a great sense of clarity, explosiveness, and delicacy while allowing us to go far beyond our familiar limits. These are necessary ingredients to fuel a good process in and out of the studio."**

- Ohad Naharin, Dance Magazine



**“Ohad Naharin is one of the most vital dance artists of the past half-century.”**

– Elizabeth Zimmer, The Village Voice, January, 2017



From Dancers Create: MESS, DRAW by Chun Woong Kim, dancers: Chun Woong Kim and Yael Ben Ezer. Photo: Alvin Collantes

## Dear Friends

**As you know, Batsheva Dance Company never stands still.**

In total, we shared 215 performances with over 100,000 viewers in sold-out houses across Israel and abroad. Ohad Naharin's spellbinding *Venezuela* premiered in 2017 to immediate critical and popular acclaim, generating prestigious tour bookings well into 2020.

Batsheva's Young Ensemble inspired 10,000 young students through *Kamuyot*, a rigorous morning outreach performance for schools across the country. The Company continued to nurture outstanding young dancers in various dance education frameworks and welcomed 570 dancers from 44 countries for our annual auditions. Batsheva continued to be a global cultural beacon, a source for creativity and research, learning and exchange, for the international dance community.

2017 also marked great progress towards the realization of our beautiful new home in South Tel Aviv, designed by world-renowned architect Sir David Adjaye. David and his team, together with Ohad, are creating a state-of-the-art multi-disciplinary Arts Campus, which will serve the community at large, contributing to the much needed renewal of the City's southern borough. Endorsed by Mayor Ron Huldai, the project is an extraordinary partnership with the Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo which is committed to a 60% investment.

We recognize the significance of our new location in Neve Sha'anán, and acknowledge the responsibility of our role in a major urban renewal process undertaken by the City. Our new Arts Campus will be a living example of how the arts can change lives, change the city, and change the world.

We launched our capital campaign to raise our remaining share, reaching out to our friends in Israel and abroad, calling for support of the Company's greatest endeavor since its establishment in 1964. We invite you to join us in this pioneering venture.

Sincerely,

**Ittamar Givton**  
Chairman of the Board

**Dina Aldor**  
Executive Director



Arts Campus in Neve Sha'anani. Design: Sir David Adjaye

## Batsheva's New Arts Campus in Neve Sha'anani, Tel Aviv

**“Batsheva have been incredible partners in exploring new ways to create contemporary art spaces that establish deep connections between their dancers, their audiences and the community at large.”**

– Sir David Adjaye OBE

In a joint venture with the Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo and the Tel Aviv Foundation, the internationally-acclaimed Batsheva Dance Company is establishing an Arts Campus at the historic Old Central Bus Station in southern Tel Aviv. The Campus, designed by world-renowned architect Sir David Adjaye, includes two theaters, studios, professional facilities, and community spaces all within a public square. The strategic use of shade, trees and water elements form a variety of communal spaces to relax, engage and interact.

Batsheva will establish an international Dance Center at the Arts Campus, opening in 2022, equipped with professional facilities of the highest quality, also serving as an international hub for Gaga teaching and research.

In addition to its own performances, Batsheva will spearhead innovative artistic programs across a wide spectrum of the performing arts, making optimal use of indoor and outdoor spaces. Programs are currently being developed and produced in collaboration with Tel Aviv's arts community and cultural institutions, and the various community organizations serving the diverse populations currently residing in the southern metropolis.

The capital campaign for Batsheva's Arts Campus will provide the resources and means for Batsheva to finally build a home of its own.

Sir David Adjaye is recognized as a leading architect of his generation. Born in Tanzania to Ghanaian parents, his

broadly ranging influences, ingenious use of materials and sculptural ability have established him as an architect with an artist's sensibility and vision. In 2017, Adjaye received a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for services to architecture and was named one of TIME's 100 most influential people. His largest project to date, the \$540 million Smithsonian Institute National Museum of African American History and Culture, opened on the National Mall in Washington DC in fall of 2016.

**Completion:** 2022

**Lead Design:** Sir David Adjaye OBE, Adjaye Associates

**Local Architect:** Miko Arditty, Goldschmidt Arditty Ben Naim Architects

**Landscape Design:** Lital Szmuk, TeMA, Architecture, Urban Landscape Design

Left: Decadance by Ohad Naharin, dancers - Nitzan Ressler, Rani Leibzelter, Adi Zlatin, photo: Zani Casadio, Festival Ravenna, 2016. Right: Naharin's Virus, dancer - Londiwe Khoza, photo: Ascaf



# The Dancers

**A core aspect of our mission is to care for our dancers' wellness and welfare by continuing to cultivate them as artists, performers, and teachers.**

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**"I am surrounded by so many talented people and consistently exposed to such different forms of humanity. I feel lucky to be part of this place."**

Nitzan Ressler, Company Dancer

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Nitzan Ressler was born in Jerusalem. During her early years, she danced with Hora Jerusalem and was the recipient of the 2008-2010 Israel-America Cultural Foundation education scholarship and the 2017 Yair Shapira award. Nitzan joined Batsheva - the Young Ensemble in 2010 and Batsheva Dance Company in 2012.

- Expanded the Gaga teacher-training program for Company and Ensemble dancers
- Supported the annual creation platform, Dancers Create, for both companies
- Provided comprehensive wellness treatments and upgraded accident insurance
- Extended our foreign dancers' visas under the newly amended 1952 Law of Entry to Israel

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**"I feel far more secure in myself now — it's a more present experience... I am grounded and calm from inside out, not outside in."**

- Londiwe Khoza, Dancer in Batsheva - the Young Ensemble

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Ohad Naharin mentored Londiwe Khoza, born in South Africa, as part of the The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative in 2016. Naharin noted her "passion, curiosity, and talent" and granted her a Young Ensemble contract for the 2017-2018 season.

# Batsheva Dancers

Batsheva Dance Company, an international dance beacon, attracts exceptional dancers from all over the world. Over the course of 2017, Batsheva hosted more than 800 dancers from 50 countries in various auditions, courses, and Gaga workshops.

## 2017-2018 Season



Etay Axelrod  
Israel



Billy Barry  
USA



Yael Ben Ezer  
Israel



Matan Cohen  
Israel



Ben Green  
USA



Hsin-Yi Hsiang  
Taiwan



Chun Woong Kim  
South Korea



Rani Lebzelter  
Israel



Hugo Marmelada  
Portugal



Eri Nakamura  
Japan



Nitzan Ressler  
Israel



Yoni (Yonatan) Simon  
Israel



Kyle Sheurich  
USA



Maayan Sheinfeld  
Israel



Amalia Smith  
Canada



Imre van Opstal  
Netherlands



Zina (Natalia)  
Zinchenko  
Russia



Erez Zohar  
Israel



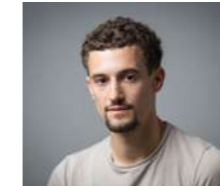
Adi Zlatin  
Israel

Portraits by Roei Dori

# Batsheva - the Young Ensemble Dancers



Chen Agron  
Israel



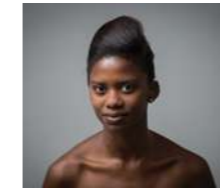
Mourad Bouayad  
France



Thibaut Eiferman  
France



Ariel Gelbart  
Israel



Londiwe Khoza  
South Africa



Shir Lewy  
Israel



Kornelia Maria  
Tamara Lech  
Poland



Ohad Mazor  
Israel



Robin Lesley Nimanong  
Netherlands



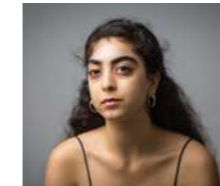
Evyatar Omessy  
Israel



Igor Ptashenchuk  
Ukraine



Roni Rahamim  
Israel



Tamar Rosenzweig  
Israel



Hani Sirkis  
Israel



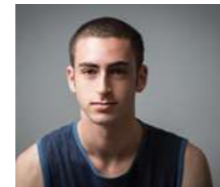
Xanthe van Opstal  
Netherlands



Nicolas Ventura  
Guatemala



Paul Vickers  
USA



Amit Landau -  
Apprentice  
Israel



Yasmin Mahmoud -  
Apprentice  
USA



Tom Nissim -  
Apprentice  
Israel



Shaked Werner -  
Apprentice  
Israel

# On Stage in 2017

Batsheva's audience is comprised of young and old, those near and far, dance-devotees, and newcomers.

In 2017, we continued our commitment to provide affordable ticket pricing and donated one-percent of all tickets to non-profits, sharing our work with as wide an audience as possible.

96

performances  
in Tel Aviv

64

performances  
outside of  
Tel Aviv

55

performances  
abroad

Total  
performances

215

31,000

Viewers in Tel Aviv

19,000

Viewers outside  
of Tel Aviv

60,000

Viewers abroad

Total  
viewers

110,000

Capacity at Suzanne  
Dellal, Batsheva's current  
home theater in Tel Aviv

93%

# Venezuela by Ohad Naharin

## World Premiere

*Venezuela* premiered to critical and popular acclaim; international tours have already been secured through 2020. As in previous years, *Venezuela* was co-produced with leading cultural institutions in Paris and Dresden.

# 16,000

Viewers  
Worldwide  
in 2017

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*"Venezuela is supernatural...17 dancers sweep the stage for an hour and a half with energy that no one can avoid or resist."*

-Dorion Weickmann,  
Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2017

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## International Tours

In 2017, both companies staged 55 performances abroad with 60,000 viewers in theaters and festivals worldwide.

**North America** – 11 cities – 31 performances, *Last Work & Decadance* – 30K spectators. **France, Luxembourg & Germany** – 9 performances, *Last Work*. **Russia, Germany, Romania** – 6 performances, *Naharin's Virus* performed by the Ensemble. **Japan** – 5 cities, 5 performances, *Last Work*. **Italy** – Amalfi coast – 1 performance, *Decadance*. **Poland** – 4 performances, *Last Work & Venezuela*

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**“Last Work, which was received with wild cheering after its New York premiere at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on Wednesday, is urgent and intense.”**

–Brian Seibert, New York Times, 2017

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## Restaged Works

Over the past year, Batsheva – Young Ensemble re-staged Ohad Naharin’s *Virus* (2001) and *Mamootot* (2003). These demanding works, previously performed exclusively by the Company, were chosen in recognition of the young dancers’ exceptional skills and maturity. Thus, the Young Ensemble dancers were given the opportunity to undergo meaningful processes as well as have the opportunity to further display their talent to audiences in Israel and abroad.

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**“The Ensemble dancers move like particles — uncatchable, moving with precise rhythm, lashing out at the wall that blocks them, creating a meticulous anarchy.”**

–Sharon Tamir, Mako, April 2017 (on Naharin’s *Virus*)

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## Dancers Create

Batsheva has continued its tradition of providing dancers from both the Company and the Young Ensemble the opportunity to create independent and original work. Since 2002, creation workshops and production and marketing resources are provided through the generous support of the Michael Sela Foundation for the Cultivation of Young Artists. In 2017, the Company dancers produced *MESS* & the Young Ensemble – *MANEGE*.

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**“Dancers Create gives me the strength to nurture relationships with other artists; we take responsibility for our artistic journeys, celebrating our passion through form and movement.”**

– Hsin-Yi Hsiang, Company Dancer

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## Batsheva Hosts

This framework showcases works by former Batsheva dancers after they have ventured on new and independent roads; other talented artists from the dance and performance scene also participate. This program introduces our audiences to the multi-faceted and diverse nature of dance as a form.

Featured artists in 2017:

**GRAVITAS** by Ofir Yudilevitch

**Rising** by Shira Eviatar

**EXIT** An evening of works by Batsheva alumni

**Common Emotions** by Yasmeen Godder

**Project 48** Artistic Director: Dana Ruttenberg

**The Burnt Room** by Noa Zuk and Ohad Fishof





## On Stage for Children & Youth

**Kamuyot by  
Ohad Naharin:  
38 performances for  
10,000 students in 2017**

Batsheva delivers *Kamuyot*, Ohad Naharin's outreach morning performance program, directly to school-gyms and community centers across the country; for many young people, it is a first encounter with live contemporary dance performance. Audience members are seated in-the-round, easily joining interactive sections.

In 2017, performance locations included: Rosh Ha'ayin, Ashkelon, Dimona, Kfar Vradim, Ra'anana, Kfar Saba, Haifa, and Rishon l'Zion

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**"I always explain to my children, and to anyone who is willing to listen: 'dance is a language' ... the feeling that we all communicate through movement and music has turned this morning into one I shall never forget; a morning which shall be remembered long after exiting the theater."**

-Israel's First Lady, Nehama Rivlin  
Reflections following *Kamuyot*  
Performance for students  
from Jaljuliya

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Left: Batsheva's Summer Course repertoire workshop with Yaara Moses, photo: Hadar Stav  
Right: Yaakov Bachran (1973) by Sara Lev Tanai, design by David Shrir, photo: Mula Eshet,  
extracted by the Inbal Dance Theater archive collection



## Dance Education & Community Engagement

**Batsheva has reached thousands of students across the country through our outreach performance, *Kamuyot*. In 2017, our dancers visited 20 school gymnasiums and community centers. Since its creation in 2003, Batsheva has shared *Kamuyot* with an estimated 150,000 students nationwide.**

### Batsheva's Program for Outstanding Dance Students

Now in its ninth year, Batsheva provides weekly sessions for dancers from across the country, developing their professional toolbox towards artistic and personal development.

### Summer Dance Intensives for Young Israeli and Foreign Dancers

Over the course of four sessions, almost 200 dancers between 14 -19 years old immersed themselves in Batsheva's repertoire and Gaga workshops with veteran and current dancers. The company awarded six scholarships to participants.

### A Day with Batsheva

Groups from across Israel and around the world visited Batsheva's studios to encounter our work first-hand. Programs include: Gaga class, repertoire workshops and viewings, and Q&As with our dancers.

### Silent Angels - Rett Syndrome Foundation - Annual Workshop

In 2017, Company dancers held a movement session with young girls, also known as "silent angels," sharing unspoken communication nurtured by the Gaga movement language.

### Leading the National Dance Collections Project

Initiated by the National Library of Israel, Batsheva was chosen to lead and develop the digital dance collection. Led by dance scholar Iris Lana, the Archive staff continued to catalogue and publish extraordinary documentation of dance-making in Israel in 2017. The site is live and accessible at [archive.batsheva.co.il/eng/](http://archive.batsheva.co.il/eng/).

# Facts & Figures

The Company's budget is \$6.6M

Income ————— Expenses

**40%**

Self-generated:  
box office sales & intl.  
performance fees

**31%**

Government and  
municipal grants

**29%**

Donations  
60% from Israel  
40% from abroad

**55%**

Production,  
Marketing and  
Operational Costs

**31%**

Dancers and Artistic  
Staff Expenditures

**14%**

General and  
Administrative  
Costs



Decadance by Ohad Naharin, photo: Ascar



2017 Young Ensemble Auditions, photo: Hadar Stav



Mamootot by Ohad Naharin, photo: Ascaf



Naharin's Virus by Ohad Naharin, photo: Ascaf

## Batsheva Dance Company's 2017 Supporters

### Public Support

Ministry of Culture and Sport  
Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Division for  
Cultural and Scientific Affairs

### Batsheva's Home at the Suzanne Dellal Center

Dellal Family  
Sokolovsky Family  
Kenny Family and Eastronics – Studio  
Varda, in memory of Varda Kenny  
Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation –  
Studio Dalia, in honor of Dalia Hurvitz

### Special Long-term Support for Dancers' Salaries

The Family Robert Weil Foundation

### The Michael Sela Fund for Cultivation of Young Artists at Batsheva

Sara and Prof. Michael Sela  
and friends from Israel and around  
the world

### Mari's Fund: Established by Ohad Naharin in commemoration of Mari Kajiwara

Ohad Naharin and anonymous donors

### New Works Fund

Anonymous  
Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation  
American Friends of Batsheva  
Nehama and Jacob Burak  
Arie Ruttenberg  
Lilit and Shmulik Zysman  
Iris Hoffman-Frenkel

### Dancers' Welfare and Salaries

Anonymous, USA  
The Family Robert Weil Foundation  
Netta Segal  
M.E.H. Foundation –  
Founded by Margot and Ernst Hamburger  
Dr. Lilly and Avner Naveh  
Dr. Hadassa and Meir Shani  
Jonas Grandér with Family – Sweden  
Adrienne and Jonas Weil

### Special Support for the Batsheva - the Young Ensemble

An anonymous donation in honor of the  
National YoungArts Foundation, USA  
Aharon Gutwirth Foundation  
Azrieli Foundation  
Maya and Avi Lavi and friends of  
AllianceBernstein Holding LP, England  
IBI Investment House  
Check Point Software Technologies

### Batsheva Auditions

Marsha Segal, in loving memory of her  
late mother Jane Fogel of Palm  
Beach, Florida

### Stage and Rehearsal Equipment Procurement

In appreciation of the generosity  
of Itzhak Bardashi's z"l Estate's  
Committee

### Community Outreach and Education

Dalia and Eli Hurvitz Foundation  
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and Chaim Paran  
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The Leon Charney Resolution Center

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### Israeli Friends Circle

Over 260 families support  
the Company and its wide variety  
of projects.  
160 couples are members of the Young  
Friends' Circle, established by  
Daphi Levy-Weiss, Sigal Mordechai and  
Sharon Podrojski.  
Friends Circle prints funding courtesy  
of Ora and Eytan Stibbe

### The French Friends of Batsheva

Fondation Pluriel pour L'Art Contemporain  
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An anonymous donation in honor of  
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The Ruttenberg Foundation  
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Dana Zwillinger

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Mary Hagan Sanders and Saul Sanders

**We'd like to give special thanks to  
the following individuals for their  
continued guidance and friendship:**  
Jody Arnhold, Judy Bernstein Bunzl, Karen  
Brooks Hopkins, Sharon Luckman,  
Marcia Preiss



Last Work by Chad Naharin. photo: Ascaf

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Last Work, by Ohad Naharin, Dancers: Amalia Smith, Hsin-Yi Hsiang, Photo: Ascaf

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Deputy Director for Development and External Relations: Dita Kohl Roman, Mor Barc Rivlin (from 2018)  
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Assistant to Exec. Director: Inbal Jacobi

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Ensemble Manager: Idan Porges  
Ensemble Rehearsal Director: Michal Sayfan  
Stage Manager: Gavriel Spitzer, Rachel Erdos

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Ensemble Sound: Yigal Feldman  
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## **Batsheva Dance Company**

6 YECHIELI ST.  
SUZANNE DELLAL CENTRE  
TEL AVIV- YAFO 6514947  
TEL. +972.3.517.1471

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF BATSHEVA  
1201 BROADWAY, SUITE 507  
NEW YORK, NY 10001  
BATSHEVAFRIENDS@BATSHEVA.CO.IL