



Presented by Dance Affiliates  
and Annenberg Center Live

# **KIBBUTZ CONTEMPORARY** **DANCE COMPANY**

## *If At All*

Choreography, Stage Design and Lighting Design **Rami Be'er**

Sound Design **Alex Claude, Rami Be'er**

Costume Design **Maor Zabar, Rami Be'er**

Music: **Volcano Choire, H. Gudnadottir, Nine Inch Nails, Massive Attack, Murcof, Olafur Arnalds, M. Richter, J. Johansson, L. Einaudi, Ophir Leibovitch**

Dancers: **Ben Bach, Tamar Barlev, Roni Ben Simon, Shani Cohen, Daniel Costa, Eyal Dadon, Niv Elbaz Nadav, Gal, Martin Harriague, Dafna Ironi, Su Jeong Kim, Anat Oz, Renana Randy, Hagar Shachal, David Ben Shimon, Olga Stetsyuk**

### **PROGRAM**

*There will be no intermission.*



**Thursday, November 13 at 7:30 PM**

**Friday, November 14 at 8 PM**

**Saturday, November 15 at 2 PM and 8 PM**

Zellerbach Theatre

## PROGRAM NOTES

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### ***If At All***

A moving theatrical event in figurative and abstract circles, from the closed form to the open structure. Physical space in motion whose essence is a chain of events of diverse and everchanging interpersonal relationships.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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**Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company** (KCDC), one of Israel's most prominent dance companies, is widely identified with the work of Artistic Director Rami Be'er whose exclusive and unique choreographic character has become the company's trademark both in Israel and abroad. With its technically strong and physically eclectic cast of dancers and its dynamic sensibility, KCDC characterizes Israeli dance at its best and performs regularly in the most respected theaters and at leading festivals around the world. KCDC was founded in 1973 by the late Yehudit Arnon who laid the foundation for today's thriving International Dance Village which was developed and continues to evolve into a first-class center for dance under the leadership of Rami Be'er and KCDC staff.

**Rami Be'er** (Artistic Director) was born to a family of musicians in Kibbutz Ga'aton, Israel. He began playing the cello at an early age and later undertook dance studies with Yehudit Arnon, the founder of KCDC. Be'er joined KCDC as a dancer and choreographer in 1980 and took over the company's artistic direction in 1996. Since then, he has choreographed over 50 works for the company and has credited both the company and himself with an impressive list of original creations, as well as some delightful and highly popular children's works. His creations have become internationally acclaimed and Be'er has been awarded prizes in Israel and abroad. Be'er has been commissioned by numerous international companies.

Be'er has created original works for Gratz Opera Ballet (Austria), Batsheva Dance Company (Israel), Hungarian National Ballet, New Danish Dance Theatre (Denmark), Staatsballett Berlin (Germany), Croatian National Ballet Theatre, Reykjavik National Ballet (Iceland), Tanzcompagnie Oldenburg (Germany), Ballett Basel (Switzerland), Poznan Opera House Ballet (Poland) and National Theatre Ballet Brno (Czech Republic).

For Be'er, the performance is a unity composed of various elements. Therefore, apart from his choreography, Be'er designs the sets, the lighting and, at times, the costumes. His work invites viewers to participate in a journey through which they can connect to themselves.

**Ben Bach** (Dancer) was born in 1989 and graduated from Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts. He was awarded full scholarships to the George Balanchine's School of American Ballet, The Juilliard School and San Francisco Ballet School. A finalist at the 2005 Mia Arbatova Dance Competition, Bach earned scholarships from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation between 2002 and 2006. He joined the San Francisco Ballet for the 2005-2006 season, The Hamburg Ballet-John Neumeier for 2006-2010 and KCDC's second company in 2010. Bach joined KCDC's main company the following year.

**Tamar Barlev** (Dancer) was born in 1991 in Moshav Beit Itzhak, Israel. She is a graduate of The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) in the United Kingdom as well as the dance program at The Ruppin School and completed the dance training program of Naomi Perlov and Ofir Dagan. Barlev was awarded a dance scholarship by The San Francisco Ballet. She joined KCDC 2 in 2011 and then KCDC's main company in 2013.

**Roni Ben Simon** (Dancer) was born in 1992 and lives in Yokneam Illit. She is a graduate of Kiryat Tivon High School for Dance. In 2010, she joined the second company as an apprentice and soon after was drafted into the Israel Defense Forces. Simon continued to dance in different programs during her army service. She joined KCDC 2 in 2013 and then KCDC's main company in 2014.

**Shani Cohen** (Dancer)

Born in Jerusalem in 1988, Cohen started dancing in Mehola Dance Center at the age of 10. She studied at the Jerusalem Academy High School of Music and Dance. In 2004, she won a scholarship for The American Academy of Ballet's summer program. At the age of 16, she joined the Mate Asher Dance Program in Kibbutz Ga'aton and two years later, joined KCDC 2. Cohen joined KCDC's main company in 2008.

**Daniel Costa** (Dancer)

Born in Porto, Portugal in 1982, Costa started dancing at the age of 18. He graduated from Codarts Rotterdam Dance Academy in 2006 and danced for four years in The Netherlands in Scapino Ballet Rotterdam, Dansgroep Krisztina de Châtel and Dansgroep Amsterdam, where he worked with the choreographers Ed Wubbe, Krisztina de Châtel, Giulia Mureddu, Stephen Shropshire and Itzik Galili. In 2010, Costal worked in Israel as Rehearsal Director re-staging *Pulse* (by Krisztina de Châtel) for the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. He joined KCDC in 2010.

**Eyal Dadon** (Dancer)

Born in Israel in 1989, Dadon studied at the Bat-Dor Dance School in Be'er Sheva in their professional dancers course. He served in the Israel Defense Forces, receiving 'Excellent Dancer' recognition. In 2007-2009, Dadon won scholarships from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. He danced for Kamea Dance Company from 2008-2010. He joined KCDC's second company in 2010 and KCDC's main company in 2011.

**Niv Elbaz** (Dancer)

Born in 1993 in Shoham, Israel, Elbaz is a graduate of Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts. Between 2008-2010, he was awarded a scholarship from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation (AICF) and earned scholarships for summer courses in Cyprus, Zaltzburg and New York. Elbaz joined KCDC 2 as an apprentice in 2012 and as a dancer in 2013. He was an outstanding dancer in the IDF and joined KCDC's main company in 2014.

**Nadav Gal** (Dancer)

Born in Israel in 1991. Gal graduated from The Jerusalem Academy High School for Music and Dance. He joined their young company in 2009. In 2010, Gal joined the Israel Defense Forces for two years of service and then graduated from Bikurei Haltim's dance program. He joined KCDC 2 in 2013 and KCDC's main company in 2014.

**Martin Harriague** (Dancer)

Born in 1986 in Bayonne, France, Harriague started classical and contemporary dancing at the age of 19. He joined the Malandain Ballet Biarritz in 2007, Ballet National de Marseille in 2008 and Noord Nederlandse Dans from 2010 until 2013. Harriague has worked with Itzik Galili, Emmanuel Gat, Roy Assaf, Andrea Miller, Keren Levi, Stephen Shropshire, Frederic Flamand, Thomas Noone and Reut Shemesh. In parallel to his dancing career, he is a choreographer and directs his own company, Compagnie XIN, based in France.

**Dafna Ironi** (Dancer)

Born in Tel Aviv in 1992, Ironi studied at School of Arts, Arison Campus in Tel Aviv. She studied dance in Tichon Alef LeOmanuyot and was awarded a scholarship from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation (AICF) from 2009-2010. An outstanding dancer in the

Israel Defense Forces, Ironi began dancing with KCDC's second company in 2010 and joined KCDC's main company in 2012.

**Su Jeong Kim** (Dancer)

Born in Seoul, Korea, Kim started dancing at the age of 15. She graduated from Ewha Womans University with two degrees in dance. She had been the backbone of TAM Dance Company which was one of leading contemporary dance groups in Korea. She was chosen as a new rising artist by Cultural Art Fund Raising. As a choreographer, Kim was awarded Grand-Pris for *Happy Tears-Episode #1* in 2009 at the Seoul International Choreography Festival. She has worked as a dancer with Joelle Bouvier and Uri Ivgi. In parallel to her dancing career, she directs her own company, Crystal Dance Company, based in Korea.

**Anat Oz** (Dancer)

Born in 1990 and from Omer, Israel, Oz studied dance in the Bat-Dor Dance School in Be'er Sheva. She is a graduate of Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts and was awarded scholarships from America-Israel Cultural Foundation. During her service in the Israel Defense Forces, she was recognized as an Outstanding Dancer. Oz completed the dance training program of Naomi Perlov and Ofir Dagan and danced with the Israeli Ballet and Kamea Dance Company. Oz joined KCDC 2 as an apprentice in 2012 and as a dancer in 2013.

**Renana Randy** (Dancer)

Born in 1973, Randy grew up in Kibbutz Ein Gedi. At the age of 16, she began to dance at The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem. She joined the Mateh Asher School of Performing Arts (MASPA) and received a special scholarship. In 1995, Randy joined the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. In 2001, she received the Yair Shapira prize for dancers. She danced with Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company and then returned to KCDC. In 2002, Randy received a prize for performance excellence from the Ministry of Education & Sport. In 2004, she studied at the Wingate Institute for physical education and sport. A certified hydrotherapist, Randy studied at The Nat Holman School for Coaches and Instructors in 2008 and is a gym instructor, personal trainer and children's fitness instructor. In 2009, she became a certified yoga instructor under the guidance of Miri and Gili Haruvi. Randy combines her artistic work with her various fields of study into a way of life.

**Hagar Shachal** (Dancer)

Born in 1993, Shachal lives in Hertzeliya and started dancing at the Lea Manor Studio. She is a graduate of Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts and was awarded scholarships from America-Israel Cultural Foundation 2010. She completed the dance training program at Bikurei Halmim and joined KCDC's company as an apprentice in 2012 and as a dancer in 2013. Shachal joined KCDC's main company in 2014.

**David Ben Shimon** (Dancer)

Born in the United States in 1983, Shimon studied at the Harid Conservatory and Miami City Ballet School. He danced in the Miami Contemporary Ballet and in American Repertory Ballet and participated in KCDC's Dance Journey program, a 5-month intensive dance study for international dancers in KCDC's International Dance Village. Shimon joined KCDC's second company in 2010 and joined KCDC's main company in 2012.

**Olga Stetsyuk** (Dancer)

Born in Ukraine in 1987, Stetsyuk began dancing at the age of eight. She studied at Codarts Dance Academy in Rotterdam, The Netherlands and graduated from Fontys' Tillburg Dance Academy in 2011 (physical dance theatre/modern). Stetsyuk had an internship with DGA, Project Sally and joined KCDC as an apprentice in 2013.