

# Keshet Chaim

## DANCE ENSEMBLE

For 30 years, Israeli contemporary dance company, Keshet Chaim has entertained audiences around the world. Drawing from the timeless themes of Jewish culture they have been praised for originality and inspiring performances. Keshet has created excitement and curiosity about Israeli culture through educational residencies and will continue to break down barriers of difference through dance.

Concerts have been performed locally at venues including Kodak Theater, Disney Concert Hall, Ford Amphitheatre, Hollywood Bowl, Paramount Studios, LA Theatre Center, Greek Theatre, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, The Shrine Auditorium, Japan America Theatre, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, Saddleback College and throughout Orange County. Regionally, the company has travelled to San Francisco, San Diego, Ventura, Tucson, Washington DC and Sacramento as headliners for large festivals. National tours included shows in Texas, Florida, Nevada and Utah. Internationally, the company has performed at Mexico City's Festival Aviv, the Bolshoi and Tchaikovsky Theatre in Moscow, Toronto's IsReal Festival and at Carmiel and Arad Dance Festivals in Israel. The company performed most recently in Washington DC, at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee conference gala for 15,000 people.

The dynamic multi faceted ensemble has been praised by international press for passion and originality:

*"As powerful and polished as River Dance, Stomp, Celtic Ladies or any of the other professional dance touring companies"* LA Splash

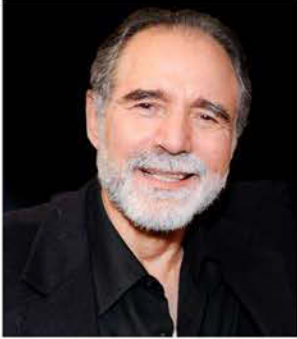
*"The haunting white clad "Adon Olam" physically illustrated a 10 verse poetic Jewish liturgy with modern movement and graceful juxtaposition."* EyeSpy LA

*"Forging a unique identity...one of the few touring American dance groups committed exclusively to Israeli culture,"* LA Daily News

*"An outstanding performance with a broad view of Israel's history and traditions"* Shavua Israeli

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*Eytan Avisar, Artistic Director*

Originally from Israel, Eytan Avisar began his dance career at the Academy of Dance in Beersheba. He travelled the world performing with national Israeli folk company Yonatan Karmon's Grand Music Hall of Israel and as a lead dancer and choreographer for Hatzabarim Dance Group. Eytan followed his heart to the United States in the late 1970's and brought with him his love of dance and Israeli culture. In 1983, he founded the Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble. Through his creative vision he created contemporary works based on teh folk dances of our heritage. Keshet Chaim has become an institution of dance and culture to communities across the United States, and internationally, that speaks to every generation.



*Kobi Rozenfeld, Assistant Artistic Director*

Kobi Rozenfeld, born in Israel, worked with and choreographed for some of Israel's top pop stars for music videos and national tours; for which he won numerous awards. In 2006, Kobi began working with Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble, where he choreographed new pieces for the company to great critical acclaim. Kobi's professional reputation and heightened demand in the dance industry has led him to work with Beyoncé and Natasha Bedingfield, and also most recently as Director and Choreographer for the Asia tour of Barbie LIVE, the Musical. Kobi also travels the world as a freelance master teacher and choreographer, is currently a faculty member of the Dupree Dance convention and the Artistic Director for a new dance studio in Los Angeles, Dance-O-Plex.



*Genie Benson,  
Exectutive Director*



*Leah Bleiweis,  
Managing Director*



*Cecilia Hanono,  
Education Director*

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### Educational Programs

Since 1995, Keshet Chaim has been using art to teach children in the Los Angeles public school community about the rich and multifaceted culture of Israel. Our goal to breakdown ethnic and cultural barriers, and deliver the message of tolerance is targeted to underserved communities in LA county . The programs are built for each classes needs and including residencies, student workshops and performances.



This is what two teachers and  
a few of the thousands of kids we see every year said...

### *From the professionals:*

"I truly enjoyed seeing so many young people of different backgrounds learning, sharing and dancing with no inhibitions! The world is theirs to save!"

Margie Reese, Cultural Affairs Department.

"Entertaining and extremely informative concert that engaged students and teachers. The learning moved far beyond the confines of a performance."

Leah Bass Baylis, Dance Advisor, LAUSD

### NOTHING SAYS IT LIKE QUOTES FROM THE STUDENTS:

"My favorite part was when we danced at the end all together." **Sara**

"Thank you for teaching us Israeli dance. I learned at the Dead Sea you can float and read the paper. Shalom," **Sofia**

"I never use to know about Israel. I am glad you taught me about Israel. I really liked it lots" **Tyler**

"Before I met you, I hated dancing. Now I LOVE DANCING! It was the best thing that ever happened to me." **Aleksandra**

"My favorite day was when we danced with all the 3rd graders. Thank you for teaching us. It was some thing I will never forget" **Alex**

