MATANEL FOUNDATION
ACTIVITY REPORT

Name of the Program: An Evening of New Works for the Batsheva Ensemble – *Hafradot (Separations) / Dom*

Year of activity: 2026

Name of the report's writer: Ronit Saranga

Function of the report's writer: Resource Development, Batsheva Dance Company

Mail: Ronits@Batsheva.co.il
Phones: +972-50-9078989

Website / Facebook address of the organization: www.batsheva.co.il

Number of active participants in the program:

Approximately 35 professionals, including 18 Ensemble dancers, two choreographers, the Ensemble Manager, and artistic and technical staff.

Estimated number of impacted participants:

Approximately 5,000 audience members.

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

With the generous support of the Matanel Foundation, Batsheva Dance Company premiered two original works for the Batsheva Ensemble: *Hafradot* by Roni Hadash and *Dom* by Basmat Nossan.

The premiere took place on April 23, 2026. Since then, the works have been presented in 18 performances throughout Israel, reaching approximately 5,000 audience members.

Both works have become part of the Ensemble's repertoire, offering young dancers opportunities to explore different movement languages, deepen their artistic abilities, and participate in original creative processes.

Five additional performances are planned for early 2027, with the possibility of further presentations later in the year, subject to scheduling.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

The Matanel Foundation's support contributed to the creation and presentation of two original contemporary dance works, combining artistic innovation, the development of young talent, and the promotion of diverse voices in Israeli dance.

A central achievement of the project was providing a significant artistic platform for two Israeli female choreographers, each bringing a distinctive creative vision and movement language. This initiative reflects Batsheva's commitment to supporting independent choreographers, advancing women in artistic creation, and encouraging diversity within contemporary dance.

The project brought together approximately 38 professionals, supported by Batsheva's Resource Development, Marketing, and Publicity departments. Since its premiere, the program has reached approximately 5,000 audience members through 18 performances across Israel.

Beyond their public presentation, the works provided the Ensemble dancers with valuable opportunities to experience different creative approaches and further develop their professional and artistic skills.

The productions also received media attention, including coverage in *Haaretz* and *The Jerusalem Post*. Relevant articles and reviews accompany this report.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

The project's evaluation is based on quantitative and qualitative indicators, including the number of performances, audience attendance, continued inclusion in the repertoire, media coverage, and artistic development opportunities provided to the Ensemble dancers.

The presentation of 18 performances to approximately 5,000 audience members demonstrates the project's reach and its contribution to making contemporary Israeli dance accessible to audiences throughout the country.

As both works premiered in 2026, a direct comparison with the previous year is not applicable. Their continued presence in the repertoire and the performances planned for 2027 provide an indication of the project's long-term potential.

Beyond these measurable achievements, working with two Israeli female choreographers exposed the young dancers to distinct artistic perspectives and creative processes, encouraging experimentation, curiosity, and artistic growth.

As Batsheva's Artistic Director, Dr. Lior Avizoor, has emphasized, welcoming guest choreographers into the studio opens new opportunities for artistic exploration and discovery.

This approach lies at the heart of the project: the encounter between independent choreographers and emerging dancers creates opportunities for mutual artistic growth, innovation, and creative dialogue.

The project also reflects Batsheva's commitment to supporting Israeli female choreographers, strengthening their visibility, and contributing to a more diverse artistic landscape.

As a professional training environment, the Batsheva Ensemble plays an essential role in nurturing the next generation of dancers. The progression of some Ensemble members to Batsheva's senior company further illustrates the importance of this broader professional development framework.

The planned continuation of *Hafradot / Dom* in 2027 reflects the lasting value of investing in original creation. New works do not end with their premieres; they continue to reach audiences, evolve through performance, and enrich the company's artistic repertoire.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

Five additional performances of *Hafradot / Dom* are planned for early 2027. Further performances are anticipated, although dates and venues have not yet been confirmed.

Alongside these productions, the Ensemble will continue presenting works from its existing repertoire, including *Decadance* and *Kamuyot*, the latter performed throughout the year for diverse audiences.

Batsheva also plans to continue developing the Ensemble's repertoire through the creation of a new work and the revival of an existing work.

This combination reflects the company's artistic vision: encouraging original creation and innovation while preserving its artistic heritage and introducing existing works to new generations of dancers and audiences.

Continued support from the Matanel Foundation would enable Batsheva to deepen its investment in Israeli artistic creation, nurture emerging dancers and choreographers, and sustain meaningful artistic activity.

Supporting new creation is a long-term investment — not only in a performance, but in artists, dancers, and the future of Israeli dance.

We sincerely hope that the partnership established with the Matanel Foundation will continue in the coming year, allowing us to further encourage artistic innovation and provide opportunities for the next generation of Israeli dance artists.