

16 STRINGS & ONE BODY

27-28.09.2019 | 8pm
29.09.2019 | 3pm

TOSCANINI STRING QUARTET CONCERT

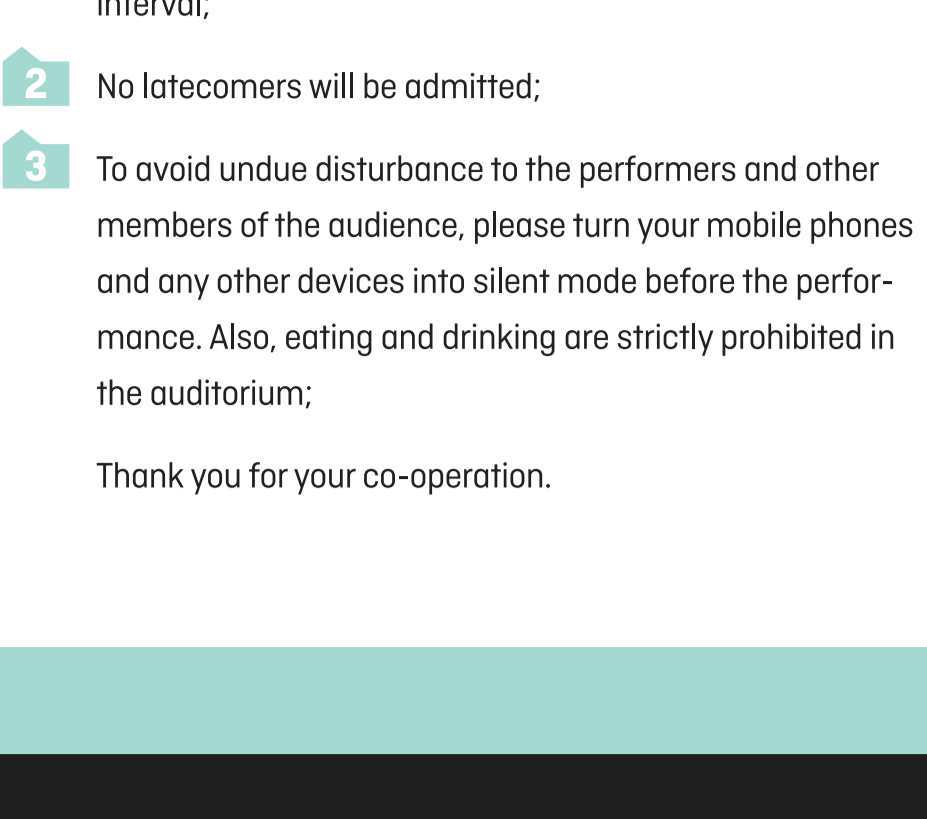
29.09.2019 | 8pm

JC Cube

《如舞在弦》

16 STRINGS & ONE BODY
— Renana Raz

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HOUSE PROGRAMME

House Rules

- 1 The performance is approximately 60 minutes with no interval;
- 2 No latecomers will be admitted;
- 3 To avoid undue disturbance to the performers and other members of the audience, please turn your mobile phones and any other devices into silent mode before the performance. Also, eating and drinking are strictly prohibited in the auditorium;

Thank you for your co-operation.

Producer's Note

Revolving around the theme "Break the Boundary and Dance Your Identity!", the Tai Kwun Dance Season 2019 challenges the conventions of identity and form through a diversity of street dance, modern dance, immersive dance theatre, contemporary dance, ballet and VR dance videos. The season is set to closing the gap between dance and the general public, inviting all to jump out from the role of just being an audience – but joining in as part of the dance and unleash their potentials!

Break the Boundary

Curated by street dance artist Chan Wing Yip, *Mind Flowing* — Workshop / Showcase / Battle comprises a series of street dance experience to explore the rhythm and dynamics of your body.

Suitable for people of all ages, everyone is invited to make a move! There will also be a hip-hop battle attended by masters from the USA, Japan, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, heating up the Parade Ground of Tai Kwun.

Dream Team

by Israeli choreographer Dana Rutenberg offers an immersive dance and theatrical experience. Performed by five dancers aged from 16 to 60, this is a heart-warming journey filled with laughter and tears.

Much anticipated returns are the two flagship dance companies of our city: City Contemporary Dance Company's Jumping Frames International Dance Video Festival 2019 will present a VR dance experience, allowing the art of dance to reach a wider audience through technology; Hong Kong Ballet's *Ballet in the City* will also take the visitors to surprising corners of Tai Kwun, complementing the heritage space with graceful steps.

Dance Your Identity

In *16 Strings and One Body*, Israeli actress-choreographer Renana Raz redefines music by joining a string quartet with her body as an "instrument", her matchless feminine charisma is captivating. Unmissable local talents include McMuiMui Dansemble, celebrating their 20th anniversary in *MMM:RE*, the duo will put up a contest for "Pageants of Tradition" and examine women's role in the society; last but not least, *Morphing*,

cross-media artist Enoch Cheng will share his bodily experiment about his revelation on species and identity, past and future inspired by his grandfather's immigration journey to South Africa.

Tai Kwun Dance Season 2019 is all about defying what you considered dance as dance!

Eddy Zee

Head of Performing Arts, Tai Kwun

Tai Kwun Dance Season Production Team

Producer	Eddy Zee
Programme Coordination	Grace Kwok, Phoebe Cheng
Production Manager	Mike Ho, Juk Cheung, Joel Ma
Chief Technician	Shandy Leung, Juno Tam, Dang Hung

Technician Planner	Irene Cheung
Ticketing	Grace Kwok
Marketing and Communications	Kitty Wong, Gillian Leung, Esther Lui, Kit Cheung, Elise Wong, Jessica Wong, Matthew Lai, Michael Chiang, Chris Wong, Sandra So, Cynthia Tong

About Renana Raz Association



Renana Raz association for dance and multidisciplinary creation was established in 2017 and it is the home for the entire work and creation by Renana Raz. The association's goals are to develop independent and multidisciplinary creation while encouraging genuineness and innovation, exposing Renana Raz's work to new and wide audiences in Israel and abroad, focusing on the connection between art and education and initiating art programmes to children in various ages. The association is particularly focusing on building art programmes that offer various models of learning, listening and being socially involved. The association has been running the "Boogie Woogie" dance workshops for kids in ages 2.5 to 6 and initiated art-educational project that enable kids to create and perform by using digital content from YouTube.

This concept was developed by Raz on her work — *YouMake ReMake*. On 2020 Renana Raz will be celebrating 20 years of creation in a series of events that will be directed and produced by the association.

Choreographer's Note

16 Strings and One Body by Renana Raz

Following the unique invitation by the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra in 2018, which offered musicians to meet artists from various disciplines, I created *16 Strings and 1 Body*.

Starting the creation process, I felt the opportunity to re-examine the format of a classical concert.

How can we create an experience, in which music is not just being listened to, but being seen?

I was interested to explore and challenge the existing borders of the standard format. I wanted to create a situation in which each one does what they do best (musicians play their instruments, the performer plays her own body), and this allows an additional layer to appear.

This new delicate layer gets revealed during the artistic encounter, which could not exist outside this meeting. It is happening because of the shared time and space on stage, which are the core of a live performance.

Visiting a concert hall (attending a classical music concert) is often accompanied by clear codes of behaviour. It is interesting for me to observe these codes, ask questions about them, reflect and challenge them, and by this offering an alternative to experiencing a classical concert. In this way I try to expand the boundaries of the human experience, for me as a creator-performer and for the audience.

About 16 Strings and One Body

Four string instruments — you call it a string quartet. But with one body? Renana Raz and Toscanini String Quartet, founded by members of Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, will show you what it can be. An "unusual" experience setting off from the perspective of a woman, Renana Raz, an award-winning Israeli actress-choreographer-dancer passionately integrates the energy of chamber music into her choreography in *16 Strings and One Body*. There are imagination, drama, interaction between melody and dance, and tension between movement and rhythm. This inspiring juxtaposition of dance and music has taken performing art experience to the next level.

Music:

Rameau — Excerpts from *Les Indes Galantes*

Ravel — String quartet in F Major

Beethoven — Excerpts from quartet op 18 no.4

Production Team

Choreography and Performance	Renana Raz
Performance	Ofer Amram
1st violin	Yevgenia Pikovskiy
2nd violin	Asaf Maoz
Viola	Dmitry Ratush
Cello	Felix Nemirovsky
Production	Orit Van Aus
International Communications	Katherina Vasiliadis

Renana Raz

Choreography and Performance

Photo: Avital Peleg

Renana Raz is a leading voice in the young generation of Israeli choreographers, pursuing various fields of artistic genres, both on stage as a choreographer and dancer and both on screen (television and cinema).

Her work is characterised by originality and innovation, as well as integration of many disciplines such as dance, theatre and performance art. In her works, she examines the place and impact of the context on the way the actual content is perceived. Many times she disconnects the content from its original context, and creates new and surprising connections. Shape and content are subject to a re-examination of how it should be presented, and thus creating a variety of innovative formats.

Raz began creating independently in 1999 and she won the Israeli Ministry of Culture Award for Young Choreographers and the Rosenblum Award.

Raz's creations have appeared on stages in Israel and abroad to the acclaim of both audiences and theatre/dance critics.

Ofer Amram

Performance

Born in Jerusalem, 1977.

Graduated from the Nissan Nativ Acting studio in 2001.

Was a member of the Habima Ensemble 2001-2004 and participated as a performer, actor, dancer and puppeteer in over 30 productions and projects, both in the repertoire theater and in the alternative scene.

His directing debut was the non-verbal puppet show for adults titled "A Tale of a Lonely Man" (2006) for which he has won several awards and took part in many international festivals. Since, he has directed over 20 pieces (original materials, adaptations and contemporary plays), including many collaborations, in various constellations, with Renana Raz. His recent creation is 'Edgar' at the Na Lagat Center for the Deaf and Blind (2016). Ofer also works in narration and dubbing, teaches actors to puppeteer, and teaches movement classes to 3-5 year old's.

About Toscanini String Quartet

The Quartet was founded 12 years ago by the members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO). The string quartet was established in order to continue the great tradition of string quartets that had been an integral part of the IPO's artistic activity and of the musical scene in Israel. The quartet has performed around the world in concerts related to the IPO's activities such as fundraising evenings. In 2006 the quartet played in Spoleto Festival, Italy, and in New York and San Francisco in 2007. In summer 2008 the quartet took part in the Verbier Festival, Switzerland. In 2010 the quartet has toured in the USA and Latin America as well as in Schloss Elmau, Germany.

The quartet members have created and developed a centre for chamber music studies in the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music.

In 2017 the quartet played in a concert for the inauguration of the "friends of the IPO fund, Vienna". In 2018 the quartet has initiated a new performance with the prominent choreographer and dancer Renana Raz, combining chamber music and dance.

Yevgenia Pikovskiy — violin

Asaf Maoz — violin

Dima Ratush — violin

Felix Nemirovsky — cello

Toscanini String Quartet Concert

Programme

Viktor Ullmann — Quartet no.3

Tchaikovsky — Quartet no.1

Ravel — Quartet in F

Yevgenia Pikovsky

Musician — Violin



Photo: Mr Avshalom Levi

Yevgenia Pikovsky, winner of 1993 Vittorio Gui and Verchelli Competitions, has appeared as soloist and chamber musician in concert halls in the USA, Israel, Russia, Poland, Italy and France. In 1993, she made her debut with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Maestro Zubin Mehta. In 1997, after studies in the USA and in Israel, she founded the Chamber Ensemble Millennium in Jerusalem. Served as the concertmaster of the Bern Symphony Orchestra in Switzerland during the seasons 2006-2008. She is a member of the teaching staff in Jerusalem Academy of Music and student orchestra coach for strings. Since the 2014-2015 season she is a leader of the second violins group of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Asaf Maoz

Musician — Violin



Photo: Mr Avshalom Levi

Born in Israel in 1979, Asaf Maoz is a graduate of the Rubin Academy of Music in Tel-Aviv, and the Rostock Hochschule für Musik, Germany, where he studied with such eminent teachers as Simon Yerushevich, Ora Shiran and Axel Wilczok.

He regularly appears in festivals, such as Verbier festival in Switzerland, Jerusalem International Chamber Music, Festival de Bellerive in Switzerland. He was a member of the "Capital Dance Orchestra" that plays mainly swing music. During 2004-2013 he resided in Berlin where he was a member of the "Komische Oper Berlin" (Assistant concertmaster), the "Deutsches Kammerorchester Berlin" (concertmaster and principal second violin), the Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra (concertmaster and principal second violin). Since October 2013 he is a member of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Dmitry Ratush

Musician — Violin



Photo: Mr Avshalom Levi

Dmitry Ratush, assistant principal violist of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra since 2004 and founding member of the IPO Richter String Quartet. He was principal violist of the Bern Symphony Orchestra in Switzerland. In 1990 Dmitry immigrated to Israel. Graduating from Jerusalem Academy in 1994, Dmitry continued his studies in Dallas, Texas at Meadows School of the Arts with Dr. E.Schmieder and Prof. B.Hustis. Dmitry Ratush is a founding member of the Chamber Ensemble Millennium, at Targ Music Centre in Jerusalem. Dmitry appears as a soloist and chamber musician all over the world in international festivals and chamber music series.

Felix Nemirovsky

Musician — Cello



Photo: Mr Avshalom Levi

Born 1963 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Student of Vladimir Pover, Victor Simon and Simeon Kozolupov. In 1990 he immigrated to Israel and joined the Rishon LeZion Orchestra and later the Camerata Ensemble of Rehovot under Avner Biron. Joined the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in 1992. A founding member of the Tel Aviv Chamber Music Ensemble and today a member of the Israel Philharmonic String Quartet. Played chamber with Maxim Vengerov, Gil Shacham, Yefim Bronfman, Emanuel Axe and Sayaka Soji.

Acknowledgement

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Ministry of Culture and Sport

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