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**Editors: Please disregard earlier releases. Use for updated information.**

**ISRAEL'S NEWEST SENSATION, INBAL PINTO DANCE COMPANY  
MAKES ITS PHILADELPHIA DEBUT WITH "SHAKER"  
CELEBRATING THE JEWISH NEW YEAR 5769**

PHILADELPHIA, PA – One of Israel's leading dance companies, the **Inbal Pinto Dance Company** makes its Philadelphia debut on the Dance Celebration Series at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 3680 Walnut Street, Philadelphia PA, October 28-29.

Hailed as Israel's new voice of dance, artistic director Inbal Pinto and collaborator Avshalom Pollak premiere *Shaker*, an enchanting full-length theatrical work inspired by snow-filled globes that traditionally evoke nostalgic snow scenes. The work is set to a music collage of great classics including Chopin, Purcell, Gavin Bryars, and Arvo Part, as well as Swedish folk music and pop tunes. Jerusalem Post exclaims, "Shaker is so beautiful it hurts." The work fuses contemporary dance, stunning imagery, eye-catching acrobatics, belly-laughing humor and theater into one unforgettable production.

There will be two performances of *Shaker* performed by a stellar cast of eleven dancers and two actors. The **Tuesday, October 28 at 7:30pm performance** is sponsored by PhillyIsrael, The Israeli Center for Greater Philadelphia; the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Center for Israel and Overseas; and the Consulate General of Israel in Philadelphia. The second performance will take place on **Wednesday, October 29 at 7:30pm**. **Single tickets are \$48-\$38 and can be purchased by contacting the Box Office, Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 215-898-3900 or [www.pennpresents.org](http://www.pennpresents.org).**

Under the artistic direction of Randy Swartz, **Dance Celebration, presented at Annenberg Center by Dance Affiliates and Penn Presents**, maintains the tradition of bringing to Philadelphia preeminent contemporary touring dance companies.

With *Shaker*, Pinto and Pollak have created a new dance-theater work reminiscent of their previous well-loved productions - - *Oyster*, *Boobies* and *What Good Would The Moon Be*. Weaving fantasy, drama and comedy, “Shaker” features a set of three small gray huts where performers clad in black and colorful unitards appear and disappear. In subsequent sections, pounds Styrofoam balls of cover the stage to resemble a blanket of snow where dancers slide, toss and roll, adding a textural quality to this magical and somewhat Dadaist wonderland. *Shaker* was the recipient of the 2007 Israel Ministry of Education and Culture Award.

Based in Tel Aviv, the company was Pinto founded in 1992 and has been invited to represent the State of Israel in festivals worldwide. Recently they collaborated with Pilobolus on the outrageous *Rushes* that premiered on the Dance Celebration Series last May.

Inbal Pinto joined the Batsheva ensemble and later the senior company. In 1997 and 1998, she was invited to the American Dance Festival’s International Choreographers Program and is the recipient of a New York Bessie Award and the Tel Aviv Municipal Award for Artistic Achievement.

Avshalom Pollak is the son of well-known Israeli actor Yossi Pollak. Trained as a classical actor, he graduated from Tel Aviv’s Nissan Nativ Drama School. He has acted in films, television programs and plays at The Habimah National Theater, Cameri Theater, Gesher Theater and Haifa Municipal Theater.

There will be a post-performance chat with the company following the Wednesday, October 29 performance. For company information contact Dance Affiliates, 215-636-9000 ext.110 or visit [www.danceaffiliates.org](http://www.danceaffiliates.org)

*This tour engagement of Inbal Pinto Dance Company is funded by the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation’s Mid Atlantic Tours program in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts Regional Touring Program.*

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