

Waves

SHIMON BRAUN

Director and Choreographer

Edward Effron, *Light Designer* Marilyn Dampf, *Stage Manager*
Walter Kahn and Ted Greenberg, *Sound and Music Design*
Myra Bazell and Frank Chaves, *Dance Captains*

Dancers

Lina Antonini	Rachel Goodman	Donald Lunsford
Myra Bazell	JeanAnne Hughes	Susannah Maxwell
Lis Braun	Master Jay	Earl McLean
Frank Chaves	Jennifer Jenkins	Margaret Molz
Meghan Doyle	Roni Koresh	Orlando Rodriguez
Kerstin Elo	Jenny Kries	Valerie Rushmere
Ramon Flowers*	Shoshi Langasam	Myles Thoroughgood
Richard Giorla	Jose Luciano	Lisa Washington

*appears courtesy of Pennsylvania Ballet

Margery Chachkin, *Administrative Director*
Lis Braun, *General Manager*

Extra choreographic assistance: *In Orbit*: Kerstin Elo; *Streetwise*: Richard Giorla, Orlando Rodriguez, Jose Luciano; *Oli-uh-oh*: Valerie Rushmere for Middle Eastern; *Electric Kingdom*: Ramon Flowers for martial arts; *Right By Your Side*: Lis Braun, Master Jay.

Monday and Tuesday Evening, July 2 and 3, 1984, at 8:00
Power Center for the Performing Arts
Ann Arbor, Michigan

These performances are made possible, in part, by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

PROGRAM

Going Through the Motion	The Company	<i>Music by:</i> Art of Noise, Nona Hendrix, John Rocca
Connections	Myra Bazell, Lina Antonini, Margaret Molz Shoshi Langasam, JeanAnne Hughes, Frank Chaves Earl McLean, Myles Thoroughgood, Ramon Flowers, Roni Koresh	
In Orbit	Kerstin Elo, Jennifer Jenkins, Master Jay	Shadowfax
Streetwise P.M.	Richard Giorla, Orlando Rodriguez, Jose Luciano or Jay Morales	Jimmy Castor
Sextet	Lina Antonini, Meghan Doyle, Kerstin Elo Jennifer Jenkins, Shoshi Langasam, Susannah Maxwell	Alan Parsons Project
Can't Turn You Loose	Margaret Molz, Myra Bazell, Meghan Doyle Frank Chaves, Earl McLean, Myles Thoroughgood	Aretha Franklin
You Name It	Ramon Flowers, Richard Giorla, Roni Koresh	Pipedream
Rockit	The Company	Herbie Hancock
Unsquare Dance (1979)	JeanAnne Hughes, Jenny Kries, Margaret Molz, Lisa Washington	Dave Brubeck
Inagadda da vida (1969)	Myles Thoroughgood, Susannah Maxwell, Earl McLean Frank Chaves, Myra Bazell, JeanAnne Hughes Lina Antonini, Meghan Doyle	Iron Butterfly

INTERMISSION





Magnetic Fields		Jean Michel Jarre
	The Company	
*The Fun Club		Joe Cocker
Oli-uh-oh	Valerie Rushmere, Richard Giorla	
The Club		Warp 9
	The Company	
Electric Kingdom		Twilight 22
	Myra Bazell, Meghan Doyle, Kerstin Elo, Ramon Flowers Richard Giorla, Rachel Goodman, Roni Koresh, Shoshi Langasam Susannah Maxwell, Myles Thoroughgood, Lisa Washington, Jenny Kries	
Right By Your Side		Eurythmics
	Lisa Braun, Master Jay	
Streetwise A.M.		Planet Patrol
	Richard Giorla, Orlando Rodriguez, Jose Luciano or Jay Morales	
Later That Same Evening —	The Club	Warp 9
	The Company	
Brown Rice		Shadowfax
	The Company	
Finale		Rhythm Trax
	The Company	

**"The Fun Club" is supported by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.*

About the Company

"Waves" derives its name from the sinuous "wave" dance technique developed by Shimon Braun, the company's director and choreographer. In it, according to Braun, are three elements: art, entertainment, and "soul," combining elements of jazz dance, modern dance, ballet, martial arts, gymnastics, and break dancing. The universal human element is woven throughout the show in the form of jazz composition, which incorporates a variety of styles and motifs. The personalities of the dancers are all-important, as riffs by individual artists are picked up by others in solos and chorus. Nearly all company members are accomplished professionals who live in the Philadelphia area, where "Waves" was started in 1981 by Braun and his wife Lis Braun.

Born in Russia, the world-wandering Shimon Braun was Israel's gymnastic champion at age 17 and a member of the original Bat'sheva Dance Company, then headed by Martha Graham. A scholarship with Martha Graham brought him to New York City where he discovered jazz dance with Jack Cole and Luigi. Returning to Israel, he founded the renowned Jazz Plus dance company and choreographed for Israeli TV and film, which included an award-winning entry in the Venice Film Festival in 1970. Back in the United States in 1980, Shimon and Lis established the Jazz Dance Centers which led to the creation of "Waves" — a fulfillment of their idea of a paid troupe of dancers who share the pleasure of jazz and its contribution to the dance language.

Lis Braun, a native of Lafayette, Indiana, has appeared with the Detroit Ballet Theatre, Dayton Civic Ballet, Anna Sokolow Dance Company, on Broadway, on the Sinai Front, and in all of Shimon's productions. She has taught students from Israel to Santa Fe to Philadelphia with her unique blend of humor and technique. Her administrative talent has been a stabilizing force behind the "Waves" productions.

In a recent interview with Daniel Webster of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, Shimon Braun speaks of his life and goals:

"I began to dance in Israel because I was a gymnast. My coach sent me to study ballet because it would make my movements more graceful. When I started, I knew right away I wanted to dance. When I was 18, I had to leave gymnastics and go into the Israeli army, and when I came out, it was to dance with Bat'sheva. I was lucky enough to have met Ruth Harris, a teacher who made me feel the beauty of dance. In the four years I spent with the company, I worked under Martha Graham, Glen Tetley, and a lot of others, mainly Americans. I was especially influenced, though, by the dancing I saw in American movies. Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire — they impressed me tremendously. In his films, Gene Kelly showed how to be a dancer but to look like just another person. He danced in street clothes — he was a man.

"I toured with Bat'sheva and danced in Philadelphia, and then when I had left the company I came to New York. I studied with Luigi and with the other great jazz teachers, and went to auditions for Broadway shows. I won the audition and could not dance, because I was here on a student visa. Anyway, I went back to Israel with Lis and eventually came back here to start 'Waves.'

"Why here? I had always lived where there were wars. I was born in Russia the year before World War II started. My family had fled Poland. Then we were back in Poland and eventually Israel. When Lis and I finally moved to this country, it was to go live in the mountains in Colorado to raise vegetables. But we ran out of money and we actually started this dance idea in Santa Fe. We did four productions there, but came to Philadelphia on the invitation of the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts.

"The idea of waves has been important to me. After all, waves connect everything in life, it is the motion of light, of water. It is continuous. Waves connect people."

For further information regarding the "Waves" Dance Company, please contact Van Joyce (Joyce Agency, NYC, 212-988-3371) or Margery Chachkin (Jazz Dance, Inc., Philadelphia, 215-563-1545).