



Emanuel Gat Dance - page 1 of 2

For Immediate Release

Contact: Susan Weiler  
Phone: (617) 876-4275  
Email: susan@worldmusic.org

## CRASHarts presents the Boston debut of Israel's **EMANUEL GAT DANCE**

performing the Boston premieres of *Winter Voyage & The Rite of Spring*  
Friday, March 7, 7:30pm | Saturday, March 8, 8pm | Sunday, March 9, 3pm  
Barbara Lee Family Foundation Theater, Institute of Contemporary Art

*"The music, dance and lighting are all searing."*—New York Times

**BOSTON, MA** -- CRASHarts presents the Boston debut of Israel's Emanuel Gat Dance, performing the Boston premieres of *Winter Voyage & Rite of Spring* on Friday, March 7, 7:30pm, Saturday, March 8, 8pm and Sunday, March 9, 3pm at the Barbara Lee Family Foundation Theater, Institute of Contemporary Art, 100 Northern Ave., Boston. Tickets are \$35. For tickets and information call CRASHarts (617) 876-4275 or buy online at [www.CRASHarts.org](http://www.CRASHarts.org).

One of Israel's brightest choreographers, award-winning Emanuel Gat exhibits a beautiful, richly complex and provocative style. Visually alluring and strikingly versatile, the company performs *Winter Voyage*, set to Schubert's masterful "Winterreise" and *The Rite of Spring*, which fuses the rhythms of salsa dance with Stravinsky's timeless score to explore how beauty and danger can thrillingly intersect.

In both *Winter Voyage* and *The Rite of Spring*, Gat showcases his sparse, visceral choreography and modern aesthetic. *Winter Voyage* features two male dancers sporting shaved heads and dressed identically in austere tunics. Moving for the most part in perfect unison, the men create a palpable tension, scooping armloads of air, pivoting quickly, creating a sometimes brotherly, other times erotic interplay. Their movements are strong, subtle and direct, marrying grace and athleticism. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau's canonic recordings of Schubert's masterpieces of memory and grief provide the ideal backdrop to Gat's restrained meditation on passion and proximity.

In *The Rite of Spring*, Gat merely touches on the themes of sacrifice and rebirth commonly associated with Stravinsky's tour de force. The piece is choreographed for an odd number of dancers, two men and three women, and the skewed symmetry creates a visually compelling discord. The performers, dressed in black and drenched in sensual red light, dance a mesmerizing salsa, often switching partners but leaving one woman to dance alone (Gat's only nod to Stravinsky's sacrificial virgin) until she is reclaimed.

Emanuel Gat was born in Israel in 1969 and originally trained as a musician and conductor at the Rubin Academy of Music. Gat did not have his first professional dance experience until 1992, at the age of 23, when he joined

- continued -

Emanuel Gat Dance - page 2 of 2

Liat Dror Nir Ben-Gal Company. Two years later, he choreographed his first work – a solo, *Four Dances*, to music by Bach. Over the next ten years he choreographed eight works (and wrote the scores for many of those works) for commissions from such celebrated institutions as the Kibbutz Dance Company, the Israel Festival, Monaco Dance Forum and more.

Gat formed Emanuel Gat Dance in 2004, and the 12-member troupe has toured the U.S., Europe and the Far East. The company's touring schedule includes performances at such prestigious events as the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and Lincoln Center Festival 2006.

Gat and his company are the recipients of numerous honors and awards, including the Ballet Master Albert Gaubiers Fund from Denmark, the Rosenblum Award for Performing Arts (given annually in Israel for outstanding achievement in the field of dance) and Israel's 2005 Minister of Culture Award. In 2006, Emanuel Gat was named the chosen artist by the Israel Cultural Excellence Foundation, one of Israel's highest recognition for artists.

**POSTPERFORMANCE Q&A:** Friday, March 7

**MASTER CLASS WITH EMANUEL GAT DANCE:** Saturday, March 8, 1:30-3:30pm at Green Street Studios. Tickets for the class are \$20. For tickets and information call CRASHarts (617) 876-4275.

**To download high resolution digital photos go to [www.CRASHarts.org](http://www.CRASHarts.org) and click "PRESS CENTER".**

Presented by CRASHarts, World Music, Inc.

**World Music is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency which also receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.**