

Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble presents

"Colors of Israel"



The Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza will once again come alive with vibrant sights and sounds as The Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble returns to the Janet and Ray Scherr Forum Theater with "Colors of Israel," to be presented on Saturday and Sunday, February 25 and 26, 2006. The group performed their evening-long production of "Neshama – Stories of the Soul" earlier this year at the Fred Kavli Theater. The multi-media presentation was met with critical acclaim and their next performance, featuring the music, dance and costumes of the different ethnic groups living in Israel and the Diaspora, is eagerly anticipated. Israeli singing sensation Noa Dori will also be featured in what is sure to be an inspiring and entertaining show.

Keshet Chaim (Rainbow of Life) is an American-Israeli contemporary dance troupe, celebrating the spirit of Judaism and Israeli culture throughout the world. Their repertoire is inspired by Jewish life in many lands and covers a vast span of history, from the time of Solomon and Sheba to the present. Artistic Director Eytan Avisar and his company transcend generations of Jewish thought and emotion through a mosaic of music, dance and color. Having begun in 1983,

Keshet Chaim is presently the major professional company of Israeli and Jewish dance in the United States. In their 20-plus years, the group has performed all over the world, representing the United States, carrying the message of the global spirit of Judaism and Israeli culture; combating prejudice and anti-Semitism through entertainment and education. The spirit of Keshet Chaim has been

seen, heard and felt in places ranging from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, from Texas to Florida, and from Israel to Moscow.

"Through the performers, the spirit of Judaism comes alive. We hope they will touch you, and the memories that you take away will be a gift that stays with you." ...Eytan Avisar – Artistic Director Keshet Chaim

Locally, the group has become more involved with working in the elementary and middle schools, making their projects



available to thousands of students as well as providing a source for professional development of Israeli dance and culture for teachers. The company recently participated in "Summer Sounds at the Hollywood Bowl," produced by the LA Philharmonic, which, over a week's time, brought Jewish and Israeli culture to 5,000 young wide-eyed children from all over the city. In November of this year, they will present a teachers' workshop entitled "Moving Out of the Box – Israeli Folk Dance in Jewish Education." "As we move forward with more educational programs, we realize the value of education through art. The kids' reactions make it well-worth the effort!" ... Genie Benson – Executive Director, Keshet Chaim

"Colors of Israel" will be presented Saturday evening, February 25 at 8:30pm and Sunday afternoon, February 26 at 2:30pm. For tickets and information, please contact the Janet and Ray Scherr Forum Theater box office: (805) 449-ARTS or the Keshet Chaim ticket line: (818) 986-7332.

