

Between Winter 2017 and Summer 2018 At the Keshet Eilon Music Center

Dear readers,

Throughout the world, and in our small country, too, these are stirring times: states engage in events that will change history, alliances are formed and systems break down: the world is in upheaval. In our little corner in Keshet Eilon, however, we continue to try, through music, to leave our modest mark upon these turbulent times. We believe in humanity, in peace and in communication that benefits people, and we seek to pass these beliefs on to the young musicians who gather under our roof.

At Keshet Eilon, there is never a dull moment: the diverse hustle and bustle at the Center focuses on the one hand on the implementation of its programs, and on the other on a constant search for ways and means to maintain them budget-wise. In other words - between one benefit concert and the next - we are busy organizing and producing the activities themselves.

The Israeli Keshet Eilon NPO, which is staffed by good people with plenty of connections and ideas, tries to help in its own way, as do the various organizations elsewhere in the world.

We believe that, together with you, in the years to come, we can continue to strive for excellence, for additional activities and for sustained achievement, while maintaining the support and volunteering spirit that characterizes the Keshet Eilon family.

The attached bulletin provides a review of activities and various collaborations that have taken place, the progress of construction on the campus and many other matters - from the end of December 2017 until today. And, of course, it offers details of future programs and events.

Enjoy!

Music as a Bridge and a Means of Communication

The 2017 Winter Seminar and the 2018 Spring Seminar for Young Israeli Jewish and Arab Musicians: a collaboration with Polyphony Education of Nazareth

Over the past two years a strategic collaboration has developed between Polyphony Education of Nazareth and Keshet Eilon Music Center. This partnership is based upon two shared objectives that link the two organizations: Firstly, to provide Israel's most talented young musicians with the very best instruction available; and secondly to create an opportunity for young Arabs and Jews to get to know and appreciate one another through music.

In this spirit we held two joint seminars for Arab and Jewish musicians this year. All violinists, violists and cellists from all over the country were hosted in the spacious student accommodation on the Keshet Eilon campus. They received individual instruction, focused on playing in a large combined ensemble and took part in academic and social activities.

At the first seminar we focused on orchestral work, and at the second on playing in chamber groups, on the premise that these frameworks would give the young musicians a good opportunity to share a genuinely collaborative experience.

Winter Seminar December 27 – 30, 2017

Keshet Eilon wishes to thank Mehra and David Rimer for initiating contact with the B8 of Hope Foundation to support the Winter Seminar



The seminar orchestra working on a movement from Schubert's Sixth Symphony. The conductor was Felix Krieger, who had come over from Germany.



Professor Galil Shahar of Tel Aviv University's Minerva Institute lecturing on music and history. The lecture was designed to encourage the young musicians to think about music as a means of bringing about social change.



Lilach Levanon in a lesson with student Yasmin Barshtak.



The seminar concluded with a performance of "La Cucaracha" by an ensemble of musicians. On the right is drummer Ashraf Farah from Kafri Yasif, whose playing lent an extra spice to the string instruments.



At the closing concert we were honored to receive a visit from Gil Shiva and Raquel Ramati, who were among the founders of Friends of Keshet Eilon in New York, where they are devoted activists.



During an excursion round the kibbutz the children of the "Shaked" Kindergarten enjoyed a little musical education. Right to Left: pianist Michael Kaner and violinist Aimirah Farah of Nazareth.

Faculty members who took part in the two seminars were:

VIOLIN: Ani Schnarch, Itzhak Rashkovsky, Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar, Yevgeny Apter, Shlomo Tintpulver, Guy Figer, Sophie Pikovsky, Mila Feldman, Chaim Taub, Dalya Yaacov;
VIOLA: Zvi Carmeli, Lilach Levanon; **CELLO:** Hillel Zori
PIANO: Laura Ahs, Rita Birman, Yulia Gurvitch, Tanya Gershoni, Irina Zheleznova, Eugenia Lakernik, Katia Samson, Marina Findel, Anna Keiserman, Marina Kaminker and Michael Kaner
WOODWIND: Ilya Schwartz;
BRASS: Michael Slatkin
LECTURERS: Professor Galili Shahar, Dr. Manar Makhoul, Jonathan Shilo -Dayan
GUEST ARTISTS: Shlomi Eini, Ashraf Farah, Yoav Kfir, Rami Oren, Guy Tuval.



Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar (left) and Itzhak Rashkovsky welcome guests at the final concert of the seminar.

Spring seminar March 21 – 24, 2018



The chamber music ensembles at work. Right to left: Idan Hayat, Hadas Caspi, Jerjes Saleh and Ibrahim Boullus play a movement from Mendelssohn's Quartet no. 2



Schubert's Quartet in G Major played by (from left) Eesa Khoury, Guy Shick (violin), Tom Cohen (viola) and Michal Riefeld (cello), under the direction of Hillel Zori (in the foreground). Other groups worked on excerpts from works by Borodin and Mozart.



Once a day the participants gathered for social or enrichment activities.



In this context, among other things, they observed a masterclass given by violinist and well known teacher Chaim Taub (right). Violinist Yonatan Uziely is on the left, with Marina Kaminker at the piano.

Feedback and expressions of thanks received by Keshet Eilon after the two seminars:

31.12.17

Good morning, Gilad,
 Thank you for four beautiful and enriching days. We were glad to be a part of the Keshet Eilon cultural enterprise.
 Ravit Eliaz,
 mother of Nahar Eliaz
 (a 12-year-old cellist from Tel Aviv)

March 25th, 2018

Thank you very much for everything... It really was an excellent and special seminar that gave us the opportunity to make warm contact with people, make new friends and also build a stronger relationship with people we got to know at previous seminars and with whom we have become the very best of friends!!

It was fun, and I'm sure I've learned a lot of lessons for life that I'll never forget.

Thank you,
 Phoebe
 (Phoebe Kamhawi, 15.5 years old, cellist from Nazareth)

January 4th, 2018

We always enjoy ourselves, and we're always excited and proud to come to seminars at Eilon. It was especially exciting to conclude 2017 with a joint concert by Jewish and Arab youngsters, all of whom love music and performing. It's a source of inspiration and hope!
 Bravo to you for your exemplary organization and implementation, for the pleasant atmosphere you create and, of course, for the great support in boosting the young players. The Levin family and Oren Levin
 (a 17-year-old violinist from Or Yehuda).

After the two seminars, the staff of Keshet Eilon and Polyphony held a meeting to discuss conclusions that could be drawn from the experience. Both parties agreed to continue with the joint seminars during the coming year (2018-19) and concurred that the two groups should collaborate on chamber music and playing together in ensembles. In preparation for the next seminar, a musical and organizational program for the year will be drawn up for three musical ensembles that will meet initially over a number of weekends, and then continue to work together at the seminar itself. At the same time, emphasis will be placed upon preparation of the shared social activities and on lectures whose level and subject matter are appropriate for the participants.

Please note in your diaries: The next Keshet Eilon and Polyphony seminar will take place on December 12th-15th, 2018.

December 31, 2017

Dear Gilad, Avigail, Nitzza and Sahar
 I wanted to thank you once again for the most wonderful work you have done organizing the seminar. We all went back home yesterday uplifted and most encouraged to continue the important work we do, and feeling stronger than ever that together with Keshet Eilon we have a chance at making a significant impact on the Israeli society.

I am highly motivated and inspired and can't wait to discuss our next steps! But, we will take few days off, to recharge!!!

Best wishes,
 Nabeel.

Further information on activities in the Arab community

After several years' collaboration with Al-Kendi Music Center in the village of Jatt, during which Keshet Eilon helped in various ways, we are pleased to learn that this organization is now well on its way to independence.

We wish Mohammad and Moussa Khalaf, who head the Center, every success – and do please keep in touch!

Benefit Concerts in Israel and Abroad

In February 2018 we held two fundraising concerts in the USA for Keshet Eilon's continuing activities.

Los Angeles, February 3rd, 2018

The concert in Los Angeles took place for the second time at Tsipi and Daniel Mani's spacious home, which once belonged to Michael Jackson. The guests of honor in Los Angeles were Cami and Howard Gordon, Priscilla and Jamie Halper and Raya Strauss Bendror.



The same "team" of Keshet Eilon graduates and staff performed at both concerts. From right: violinist Leonid Baranov, from Russia; violinist Nir Rom Nagy (Israel); and pianist Rustam Rahmedov (Turkmenistan), on the left. To his right is the Israeli actress Noa Tishby, who volunteered as mistress of ceremonies for the event in LA. Eleven-year-old violinist Leia Zhu, a pupil of Itzhak Rashkovsky's, also performed at the event and moved her listeners with her performance of John Williams' music for the film Schindler's List.

Keshet Eilon wishes to thank Betty Grinstein, who organized and produced both concerts; the concerts' hosts, who opened their hearts and their homes to Keshet Eilon; Meir Dalumi, for the beautiful gift of jewelry he presented to the ladies who attended the Los Angeles concert; the guests and donors; and all the musicians, for performing on a volunteer basis. Our very best wishes to you all!

Miami, February 7th, 2018



During their time in Miami, Keshet Eilon representatives visited the famous violinist Ida Haendel, a former member of the teaching faculty at Keshet Eilon who has appeared at the project's events in New York and Israel. Leia Zhu and her mother also visited, and Ida was greatly moved by Leia's playing.



In Miami Orly and Shlomy Alexander, who own security companies and real estate, hosted a concert for the first time in their beautiful home. Raya Strauss Bendror was the guest of honor.



At both concerts, scholarships for outstanding students, seats named for donors, etc. were auctioned. Sotheby's New York auctions director Jennifer Roth volunteered to act as auctioneer, and for this we thank her profoundly.

New York, May 14th 2018

Another benefit concert, at the Harmonie Club in New York, was organized by the New York Friends of Keshet Eilon, whose wonderful, devoted work impressed us yet again. This concert was characterized by an especially warm and friendly atmosphere, and by the presence of a great many friends, both old and new.



Performers at the concert, from right to left: André Haj (Israel), pianist Rustam Rahmedov (Turkmenistan), Ziyu He (China) and Emily Sun (Australia).



A guest trio from New York that included Keshet Eilon graduate Ariel Horowitz (violin), pianist Christine Wu and French horn player Scott Leger also performed.



Raya Strauss Bendror, who came over from Israel specially to attend this concert, too, made a very generous donation and delivered a presentation of Keshet Eilon's activities.



Fiorenza and Yoron Cohen presided over the auction held in New York, which elicited donations for scholarships; sponsorship for the Sounds of Keshet Eilon Concert Series and for signage and artwork on the campus; and support for violin classes in the Arab community. Meals at two restaurants in the city were also auctioned off.

To members of the board Lior Evan, Sara Gelbard, Batya Kahane, Ellen Marson, Mark Slivka, Nurit Amdur, Gil Shiva, Renee Schreiber and Raquel Ramati; and to concert committee members Amb. Colette Avital, Shmuel Bendror, Mr. and Mrs. Gustavo Cisneros, Richard Cohen, Hanna and Marcel Doron, HRH Princess Firyal, Ambassador Dan and Janice Gillerman, Vadim Gluzman, Hon. John G. Heimann and Cristina Maria Anzola, Oren Heimann, Nathan Hevroni, Dr. and Mrs. Joel Casimir, Avram Schreiber, Amb. Gabriela Shalev, Harriet Slivka, Angela Yoffe, Micha Tziprkovsky - We send our warmest thanks, and especially

to Concert and Dinner Co-Chairs: Betty Grinstein, Batya Kahane, Raquel Ramati and Gil Shiva.

We should also like to express our appreciation to Lior Evan, who presided with great charm over the second half of the event; to the auctioneers; to those who contacted the restaurants that donated meals - the Altamarea Group, Hanna and Marcel Doron and chef Daniel Boulud; to Meir Dalumi, for the gifts of jewelry; and to the musicians who performed on a voluntary basis, including the guest artists who joined in the concert.

News from Keshet Eilon Music Center's new campus

• The groundwork for the construction of classrooms and the masterclass hall was completed very recently, and we are now awaiting permission to start the actual building work. Readers will recall that this work has been funded by JNF KKL Germany, and we are grateful to Mr. Shaul Chorev for initiating this support on its part.

• Readers will also recall that the masterplan for this stage of the campus and the detailed construction plans for the classroom wing were drawn up in the office of architect Ada Karmi-Melamede, and that some of the work was done on a volunteer basis. We should like to extend our warmest thanks to Ada and to Daniel Lipsky.

• On the afternoon of Saturday, July 28th, at our traditional Friends Day event, we inaugurated the elevator that was recently installed between the cafeteria floor and the Keshet Eilon office. This elevator, which renders the office and the floors below it accessible to guests, suppliers and participants in Keshet Eilon activities, was donated by Mrs Esther Admon and the Beracha Foundation, to whom we extend our warmest thanks.



News from the Keshet Eilon NPO

Since March 2018 Rami Shalmor has been appointed as our chairman.

Rami, who is an MBA graduate of the Hebrew University, is chairman and CEO of Shalmor Holdings Ltd. He is married to Irina, chairperson of Shalmor Communications Ltd. He is involved with a number of organizations concerned with culture and education in Israel, such as the Israel Cinema Foundation and the boards of trustees of Tel Aviv University, Jerusalem's Bezalel Academy, the Ruppin Academic Center and Achva Academic

College in the Negev. He is a member of the council of Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion House and chairman of the Docaviv International Documentary Film Festival. We wish Rami every success in his new role!

And what else has happened at Keshet Eilon in the winter, spring and summer of 2018?

We were visited by...

- Itamar Shwika, CEO of the Havatzelet Fund, accompanied by Mateh Asher Regional Council representative Eyal Rise.
- Tova Mayer, who has assumed financial managership of the Friends association in London.
- Matt Tomasas, representing a family of donors and Friends of Keshet Eilon in the USA.
- Raya Strauss, together with Martin Rosenberg, who took part in the Miami concert, and New York Keshet Eilon Friends Amy and Richard Miller.
- Noa Eyal, a member of staff at Otzrot HaGalil.
- A group of culture media correspondents from France, another Otzrot HaGalil initiative.

We have hosted

- Members of two amateur choirs from Ramat Chen and Haifa who came for a weekend of intensive work.
- A number of sports teams from our area, for two days of intensive training.
- Concerts by the Mateh Asher regional music conservatory and students of music from the Manor-Kabri Regional High School.
- A group of eighty jazz music students from Thelma Yellin Arts School, who, we are happy to say, have promised to come back next year. They will be followed, for the first time, by a group of classical music students from the same school.
- A ministry of education convention of school choirs and students of music.
- A group of donors from the Jewish National Fund in the USA, at the initiative of the Western Galilee Now Organization, who enjoyed a concert given by Keshet Eilon graduates Mor Yanni (L) and Eesa Khoury (r.), both of whom are students of Yevgeny Apter at the Rubin Conservatory in Haifa.
- Two conferences for Western Galilee tourism entrepreneurs, on mutual cooperation, likewise initiated by Otzrot HaGalil.



We participated in...

A very well-attended Jewish Funders Network event at the Tel Aviv Hilton in May 2018. Mor Yanni and Eesa Khoury played on this occasion, too, and once again proved themselves worthy representatives of Keshet Eilon.

We've acquired...

- **An impressive presentation** designed to help portray Keshet Eilon to donors and new friends, prepared by Ori Onn, a new member of the NPO committee, and the Keshet Eilon executive. The presentation was inaugurated at the benefit concert in New York. Warmest thanks to Ori.
- **A new Keshet Eilon Music Center website.** After a long period we are pleased to announce that the new site is already on line and ready to welcome surfers with up-to-the-minute information and a whole new look.
- **An exhibition entitled Sound Effects, by Bell Shafir,** is on show in the lobby of the Bar-Uryan concert hall. Our

thanks to both Sharon Yaari and Sharon Poliakin, who were responsible for the previous exhibition.

We've said goodbye to...

- Itzick Sharif, Keshet Eilon NPO former chair, and thank him for his wide-ranging activities for our project during 2016-2018.
- After 24 years of productive work together, we've said goodbye to Judy Wigdor-Krausz, our English editor and translator, who has played a vital role at the Keshet Eilon office. We have wished her every success in her future undertakings – and now Carol Sutherland of Moshav Ben Ami has joined our ranks as our new translator.

We've rejoiced and congratulated...

A Keshet Eilon graduate, violinist Ariel Horowitz of New York, who studied with Itzhak Perlman at Juilliard, on being awarded second prize at the Arthur Grumiaux Competition in Brussels, Belgium.

Another Keshet Eilon graduate, violinist Victoria Gelman, (Israel) won the Clermont competition at the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music, held July 1, 2018. Congratulations to Victoria, her teacher Hagai Shaham and her pianist – Julia Gurvitch!

Please make a note of the activities schedule for the near future

October 16th, 2018: The opening concert of the Sounds of Keshet Eilon series, 2018-2019: Near Eastern Voices, a vocal concert that combines classic mixed choral singing with Arab and other popular Middle-Eastern music, performed by

Israel's Gary Bertini Choir, conducted by Ronen Borshevsky, with soloist Maria Joubran. See below for information on all the season's concerts.

December 12-15, 2018: Winter Seminar for Israeli musicians, held in conjunction with Polyphony Education.

THE MUSIC MAKERS FESTIVAL IN ISRAEL HOSTED BY KESHET EILON

December 30th, 2018 until January 3rd, 2019

At this first Music Makers Festival in Israel the emphasis will be on involvement and a close and informal relationship between performers and guests throughout the event, created by shared rehearsals and meals, shared leisure-time activities and professional get-togethers on musical creativity and instruments.

December 31st, 2018: Welcoming the New Year

A festive concert with Festival performers Vadim Gluzman (violin), Tabea Zimmermann (viola), Johannes Moser (cello), Niek de Groot (double bass), Angela Yoffe (piano) and Alessio Bax (piano).
Program: Stravinsky: Italian Suite; Shostakovich: Sonata for Viola and Piano; Rossini: Duo for Cello and Bass; Schubert: The Trout Quintet.

January 13-16: The classical music class from Thelma Yellin Arts High School

January 20-22: The jazz class from the same school
January 23rd, 2019, in the Bar Uryan Concert Hall: Young people's Mi-La-Si Competition, produced by the Nahariya Rotary Club.

April 10-14, 2019: The Israeli Musicians' Spring Seminar, in conjunction with Polyphony Education.
July 21st – August 7th, 2019: The 2019 Summer Mastercourse at Keshet Eilon.

And at the last moment, July 14th, 2018

Another benefit concert was held, this time at the home of Ella and Oded Gera of Kfar Vitkin. Vadim Gluzman, Angela Yoffe, Hillel Zori, a number of Keshet Eilon faculty members and graduates played the Mendelssohn's Octet in E-flat major. Proceeds from the concert will be used to help fund Keshet Eilon activities, including the festival planned for this coming winter (see above, in the future plans section).

We offer our warmest thanks to Ella and Oded Gera, who so warmly opened their home; to the musicians who performed on a volunteer basis; and to the donors who joined the circle of Keshet Eilon's Friends.

1. Vadim Gluzman and Angela Yoffe at the concert. 2. Ella and Oded Gera, who hosted the concert.
3. Performing the Mendelssohn Octet; L to R: Violinists Vadim Gluzman, Svetlana Simanovsky, Daniel Aizenshtadt and Guy Figer; Violists Maya Tal and Maayan Gabel; Cellists Ori Ron and Hillel Zori (standing).



You are invited to choose a concert to attend in the "Sounds of Keshet Eilon" series



Now, how about reserving one of the comfortable suites or villas at Keshet Eilon and get a special discount for the concert!

Reservations:

Tel.: 050-9806767 (Assaf Leibowitz, Zippi Matusevich)

Email: nofesh@kesheteilon.org.il

Website: www.keshetei.org.il

The "Sounds of Keshet Eilon"

Concert Series, 2018-2019, in the Bar-Uryan Concert Hall,
Keshet Eilon Music Center, Kibbutz Eilon

October 19, 2018

Fri. 9:00 pm

"Near Eastern Voices" (Krovim Bamizrach).

The Gary Bertini Choir in an innovative concert that melds together two completely different musical worlds: authentic, traditional Arab music and Oriental Jewish songs for mixed choir, soloist and instrumental ensemble. Conductor: Ronen Borshevsky; Soloist: Maria Joubran.

With the generous support of Michael Naftali (New York)

November 24, 2018

Sat. 8:00 pm

Swaying and Singing (Mitnadned Ve-Shar)

Internationally renowned Tenor Yotam Cohen and arranger Idan Sochovolski use their personal stories to pair classic songs with up-to-date arrangements of works by Zehavi, Argov, Zarai, Puccini, the Beatles, Freddie Mercury and others.

With the generous support of Kibbutz Eilon (Israel)

December 14, 2018

Fri. 12:00 pm

Discovering New Worlds (Megalim Olamot Hadashim)

The Carmel Quartet presents a concert (with explanations) of works by Haydn (the Quintets) and Dvořák (the American Quartet).

With the generous support of a friend of Keshet Eilon (anonymously)

December 31, 2018

Mon. 8:30 pm

Festive Gala Concert to open the Music Makers Festival in Israel

Vadim Gluzman (violin) and Angela Yoffe (piano) lead an array of international artists, including Tabea Zimmermann (viola), Alessio Bax (piano), Johannes Moser (cello) and Niek de Groot (double bass), in a unique concert of works by Stravinsky, Shostakovich, Rossini and Schubert.

With the generous support of Michal and Avraham Kadar (New York)

January 25, 2019

Fri. 9:00 pm

Schubertiade, Israel 2019

A string quartet of leading chamber musicians led by violinist Itamar Zorman performs some of Schubert's well-known compositions, and some Mozart to round off the event.

With the generous support of Sue and Lior Evan (New York)

March 1, 2019

Fri. 9:00 pm

Israeli Love (Ahava Yisraelit)

Pianist Orit Wolf and countertenor Yaniv d'Or (Israel-UK) present poems by Halfi, Alterman, Manor and Gefen set wonderfully to music by Caspi, Rechter, Einstein and others.

With the generous support of Michal and Avraham Kadar (New York)

April 12, 2019

Fri. 9:00 pm

Chamber Music at its best

Two popular piano trios by Brahms and Dvorak performed by an international trio: Pianist Saleem Abboud Ashkar; Violinist Kulja Blacher and Cellist Claudio Bohorquez.

May 17, 2019

Fri. 9:00 pm

Why Not Berlin? (Lama Lo Berlin?)

Writer Assaf Inbari and singer-songwriter Ariel Horowitz embark upon a journey in words and sound that encompasses all aspects of life in Israel, following the publication of Inbari's latest book *The Tank*.

With the generous support of the Miluot Corporation (Israel)

June 8, 2019

Sat. at 12 noon

The Kiss Stealers (Gonvei Haneshikot)

The Moran Choir with soloists May Feingold and Ori Banai in a musical performance for all the family that includes lively, amusing discussion of life and the world. Text: the late Nava Semel; Music: Moshe Zorman; Director: Oded Kotler; Conductor: Naomi Faran.

Purchase online at the Keshet Eilon Website, www.keshetei.org.il or at Tel: +972-4-9858191/131

Programs are subject to change. Income from all ticket purchases is used to support Keshet Eilon Music Center.