

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Uprising (2006)

(Ailey Company Premiere—2014-15 Season)

Choreography by Hofesh Shechter

Re-staged by Bruno Guillore

Music by Hofesh Shechter and Vex'd

Lighting Design by Lee Curran

Created in 2006, Hofesh Shechter's critically-acclaimed *Uprising* features seven men who emerge from the shadows to bombard the stage with furious intensity, bonding and sparring in a highly charged work set to a percussive score by the choreographer himself. Widely considered his breakthrough work, *Uprising* defined Shechter as a new rebellious voice in dance with an untouchable ability to captivate audiences and set hearts pounding. Utilizing a movement style that is primal and imbued with a certain high-tension energy, the 38-year-old Israeli-born Shechter has risen to become one of Europe's most sought-after dance creators since his move to London in 2002. *Uprising* is the first work by Shechter to enter the Ailey repertory.



Hofesh Shechter Company in *Uprising*.
Photo by Ben Ruddick

"Hofesh Shechter. It's a name to remember. (Mr. Shechter) is one of the most inventive new choreographic voices to turn up in quite a while."

The New York Times

"In this portrait of the male tribe there are also moments of tenderness, humor, anguish and frustration. Mr. Shechter suggests all of this purely through the movement, never letting an image solidify for long enough to become overstated."

The New York Times

"Hofesh Shechter is one of the hottest new names in the world of dance."

The Guardian

"With the *Uprising* I almost felt I had this wild dog inside me that needs to be unleashed. It's really about the childish and competitive mood of a group of men flung together in a room, so there's something very powerful about it."

Hofesh Shechter

Hofesh Shechter

Hofesh Shechter is recognized as one of the UK's most exciting artists and is renowned for composing the musical scores for his dance creations with his raw, atmospheric music complimenting his unique choreographic vocabulary.

Shechter graduated from the Jerusalem Academy for Dance and Music before moving to Tel Aviv to join the world-renowned Batsheva Dance Company, where he worked with artistic director Ohad Naharin and a variety of other choreographers. After drum and percussion studies in Tel Aviv and later in Paris at the Agostiny College of Rhythm, Shechter began experimenting and developing his own music while participating in various projects in Europe involving dance, theatre and body-percussion.

After moving to the UK in 2002, his creations attracted international attention beginning with his choreographic debut, *Fragments*. In 2007 London's three major dance venues, The Place, Southbank Centre and Sadler's Wells, uniquely joined together to commission Shechter's *In your rooms* which culminated in sell-out shows at Sadler's Wells Theatre and won the Critics' Circle Award for best choreography (modern) in 2008.



Photo by Jake Walters

Hofesh Shechter Company was formed in 2008 and has performed around the globe in many of the world's leading dance venues. In addition to acclaimed work for his own company, his choreography has appeared in the repertory of many dance companies including Nederland Dans Theater (The Netherlands), Carte Blanche Dance Company (Norway), Scottish Dance Theatre (UK), Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet (New York) and Bern Ballett (Switzerland).

Additionally, Shechter has worked as a respected choreographer in theatre, television and opera notably at The Royal Court Theatre for *Motortown* (2006), *The Arsonists* (2007), and for the National Theatre's award winning production of *Saint Joan* (2007). In 2013 Shechter collaborated with Metropolitan Opera on Nicol Mulhy's Opera *Two Boys*. In March 2015 Shechter will be choreographing a piece on The Royal Ballet which will premiere at the Royal Opera House, London.

Shechter is an Associate Artist of Sadler's Wells and Hofesh Shechter Company is Resident Company at Brighton Dome.

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and Jerwood Changing Stages Choreolab at DanceXchange, Birmingham, U.K.

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