

## ALEX'S EXPERIENCES Alex Huber documents important Israeli folk dance events with his camera

## Moshe Telem Celebrates His Milestone 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday With The Dancers

From Moshe (Rabenu) to Moshe (Telem) – There is no one like Moshe... and indeed, Moshe Telem is a brand in our Israeli folk dance. (Also see: <u>http://magazines.rokdim.co.il/showart.php?lang=en&artid=541</u>)

Moshe is known all over the world as the "Dancing Farmer", as his name (Telem) indicates – a brilliant combination of a rooted farmer who still works in the field and who has guided and led dancing for tens of thousands of dancers for over 40 years.

It's no wonder that on his milestone 80th birthday, Moshe celebrated with hundreds of his dancers who gathered together at Kibbutz HaOgen for a folk dance celebration accompanied by the legendary Ma'abarot Orchestra (with which he recorded hundreds of folk dances that we still use in dance sessions) and of course later on with recorded music conducted by **Eyal Karblenik** and **Moshe Oron**.



Birthday cake with the famous mustache



In the center of the circle and in the center of things





With a mustache over and under the microphone – the mustache that has been the symbol of Moshe

With Aviva Gafni



Moshe roars at the dancers as in days gone by



With Yishai Meir and the clarinet



With Shlomo Maman

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We all knew, almost all the dancers, if not by their names, then at least by their faces, and we were privileged to bring back beautiful memories from the time when we danced with Moshe in the large harkadot (dance sessions) at Tel Aviv and Bar Ilan Universities, in the big marathons.

We mostly remember the Friday-Saturday Kabbalat Shabbat gatherings in Caesarea with singing and camaraderie, the dancing on the porch of the Nautical Center, facing the Mediterranean waves until dawn, the watermelons he brought from the field and were eaten before we went to bed at dawn until we woke up to the sounds of **YuZju (Yosef) Inbar**'s *z*"I flute and continued to dance almost until the end of Shabbat.

These were beautiful days for all of us ... equal





Sarah and Shmulik Bar On, the organizers of the event, with the guest of honor



Moshe conducts the orchestra and directs the dancers as in the days of Caesarea

The smiles on the dancers' faces that says it all



Moshe leads the dancers as in those days

Those in wheelchairs also danced with us

With Moshe Oron in the center of the circle demonstrating a dance



*Turning to the orchestra with the dancers in the background* 

Wow... what beautiful circles with dancers holding hands!

