

Arts & Entertainment

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet: A Grand Success

BY KRISTEN PATTERSON

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet performed for a packed audience the evening Thursday, September 24, the atmosphere of which was one of total anticipation.

With a somewhat weak, albeit typical, start the company performed Tchaikovsky's "Allegro Brillante."

While not bad, the dancers seemed at times to be out of sync and not quite comfortable with their choreography. It was certainly pleasant enough, and our gasps of awe were meant to be saved for the one and only Evelyn Hart who would not appear until the next work.

Shining in Auber's "Grand Pas Classique," Ms. Hart was well-matched with Jesus Corrales, and the two were nothing less than masterful in their performances. It was bold, challenging and brilliant.

Then, we were transplanted into the surreal with Gorecki's "La Soif." Performed by four dancers; Tara Birtwhistle, Johnny Wright, Lissette Salgado and Paul De Strooper, the dance was unlike anything I have yet seen. Modern and yet classic, the dancers flowed into each other like liquid and left me in tears.

Ms. Hart returned to the stage in Schubert's "Impromptu Pas de Deux," again with Jesus Corrales, and thrilled me to no end. Both dancers' movements were so precise; they were incapable of making any mistakes. Their facial expressions mirrored the music's mood perfectly, convincing me of their complete confidence in each other.

The company concluded the evening's performance with "L'Etiquette," a medley of works from Vivaldi, Daquin, Bach and Corelli. Meant as comic relief, I found it enjoyable, though not hilarious. Perhaps the best part came at the end, when the curtains (of their own accord) failed to open.

The canned music was a disappointment, though live performances by pianist Tadesz Biernacki and alto flautist Nina Martini-Dorey were greatly appreciated. Overall, it was a gorgeous performance not to be forgotten.

City Cinema movie line-up

The Truce
Oct. 5-7th
5&6th at 7pm and
7th at 6:45pm

Trainspotting
Oct. 8-11th
8&10th at 9:20pm
9&11th at 9pm

The Piano
Oct. 7-11th
7th at 9:10pm,
8&10th at 7pm
9&11th at 9pm

Knowledge
Oct. 11-13th
11th at 1pm,
12&13th at 7pm

Tickets:

Regular. \$7.00
Member. \$4.50

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 6 TO 13

Confederation Centre Art Gallery

Millie Gamble
opened Sept. 20th
Island photographer

Alexandra McCurdy: S.O.S. (Sources of Support)
Opened Oct. 4th
Ceramic art

Gaelforce Dance

October 7th
Charlottetown Civic Centre
8pm

Barachois

October 5, 7, 9 & 10th
McKenzie Theatre
8pm

Ignition

October 17th
The Barn
Doors open at 8pm

Confederation Singers

"Frostiana" poems of Robert Frost set to music
Oct. 18th
at the Lower West Gallery
Confederation Centre
8pm
Tickets: \$10 (\$1 discount for students and seniors)

Ian Hominick, Concert Pianist

Mozart, Brahms, Thalberg and Grainger
Oct. 23rd
at the Lower West Gallery
Confederation Centre
8pm
Tickets: \$10 (\$1 discount for students and seniors)

The Four Cornered Couch - ACT

(A Community Theatre) Production
Oct. 22-25
Carrefour
8pm