

On Tour: Patrizia Cerroni & I Danzatori Scalzi in "Crazy Loves"

"Crazy Loves", the latest creation of dancer-choreographer Patrizia Cerroni and her company "I Danzatori Scalzi" features the musci of Brian Eno, Steve Roach and L. Shankar. On 2 tour schedule that will take her to Brazil, the United States, Spain and Austria, the choreographer realized much success.

According to Ms. Cerroni: "The basic themes of the show are madness and love. Movement is the protagonist of an infinite story gliding on a wave of sounds fermented by the magic of the lights. The dancers' emotion becomes our emotion and we intensely share their joy and playfulness. This show is based on eroticism which is captured in all its tenderness through sensuality. The characters pass through the whole range of emotions of madness and love with a vibrant, uncontrollable dynamism. These "crazy loves" have the courage to be true in their purity and lack of inhibition. The "nude" solo at the beginning represents the primordial force of nature, symbol of freedom and the beginning of union. The true sense of the show appears here: the communication of profound spirituality contained in eroticism and which, in all its lightness, flies freely beyond madness and love."

"This dance is about madness and love, depicted not in its multitudinous aspects but in its denouement. So it is joyful, light-hearted, basically optimistic, cathartic, and makes intense use of a range of dynamic rhythms. It is a study of inner liberation leading to a happy ending." Then you have not crushed

those enigmas that seemed to weigh down your dance when you twisted around in Tendrilla for almost forty endless minutes.

"There are always enigmas living inside us. We have to sew up the threads this society, our education, have cut apart, that keep us from feeling respect and love. We have to live with joy, with a positive view of life: Madness is creativity, audacity in our games of life: Otherwise we find ourselves in a chasm, in a ever-widening spiral of jealousy, of betrayal."



-Is love always madness?

"Yes, but we can experience it creatively or destructively. Love is the vital energy of sentiment and emotion. Love is madness because it is total. Of course I am speaking here about love with a capital "L". But I don't mean only the love of a couple; I am only thinking the energy it unleashes."

-What has changed in Patrizia Cerroni in the last twenty years?

"I feel freer inside, free to be myself. I believe in the purification of sentiment and the psyche. My choreography is probably less anti-conformist and contorted. My spiritual search took a long time: twenty years of visiting India and ten years of Jungian analysis."

Variations on Love

Away from the stages of the three dance festivals which have literally swamped Rome over the last two weeks ("Roma per la danza", "Mediascena" and "Spaziodanza"), and therefore at the expensive Teatro Olimpico, presumably rented at her own expense, Patrizia

Cerroni has returned to the Rome stage for four days, in "Crazy Loves" with her company "I Danzatori Scalzi".

The performance marks the twentieth anniversary of this group founded in 1973 by Patrizia Cerroni, a former student of the National Academy of Dance, when she was only 22. So we cannot help but look at her latest efforts as an arrival point, in other words compare them with her beginnings. Back then Patrizia Cerroni shared the vocation for the sublime of the young Italian modern dance movement, whose advocate in Italy was Elsa Piperno, using the method of Martha Graham. But Cerroni was also imprinted with another, diverse parameter, that of Jean Cebron who, as teacher at the Rome Academy stimulated her with his own system of "free dance", formally more fanciful and on the whole more connected with contemporary reality. We liked Patrizia Cerroni and found her interesting right from the start: apart from a certain youthful presumption of being able to tackle and resolve the highest, noblest, most abstruse problems instantaneously - like many of her many, better-known "modern" colleagues - we detected in her fragments of a marked gift, flashes of formal choreographic audacity and a certain aroma of possible iconoclasm.

Then for twenty years her career developed almost entirely abroad - within the immense, meritorious network of Italian embassies and cultural centers and some specialized moments during the international festivals of music, theater and dance. And now, finally, she is once more in Rome with "Crazy Loves". And the first of the positive things that has happened in these twenty years is her dancers' passage from a "youthful" and semi-amateur level to a professionalism of high quality.

Of ten dancers (aside from Cerroni), there are at least two men and two women of outstanding calibre. But above all what has happened is that her main themes have become winning an earthly (perhaps overly so) No longer is there any more or less snobbish sophism or ideological commitment: the theme here is love, pure and simple. Or rather, amorous encounters of all kinds, at times swift and fiery, at others sweet, long and languid, and at still other somewhat awkward and ridiculous: A young man enters on the right, a young woman on the left and right away, it's love with music that changes, evoking differing emotional dimensions - Brian Eno, Steve Roach, Charles Mingus, etc. Some of the dances are of excellent quality, others are too simplistic and repetitive. On the whole, the performance is light but enjoyable and professional.

IMPORTANT NOTE

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