

When the Monster Dances the Rumba

The Belgian stage-magician Wim Vandekeybus was celebrated with his company in the Markgrafentheater in Erlangen

[...]

Myths, fairy tales, masquerade. The fantastic and fantasy together. In front of a black wall of nightmares dark figures push out of the unconscious. [...] When the monster dances the rumba, the presentiment of the end of the world becomes a party.

Wim Vandekeybus, since many years a leading dynamo of European dance-theater (and always a little more inclined toward theater than to the also very impressive, and perfectly executed, dance), has again in his new piece drawn all the qualities of his explosive energy. A pop artist with an antenna in all directions. In all of the body language poems, which in an aggressive artistic way seem to be directed towards a kind of heavy dance, the difference between partnership and struggle is always kept open in a very disconcerting way. This gives the performance, which was technically perfect, the strong support of a poetic enigma, one hundred minutes long.

The audience celebrated a company and its master, which among the growing diversity of the European dance world, is still an outstanding exception.

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