

Labayen Dance/SF in “Carmina Burana:Revisited ” Enrico Labayen at his best

Joe Landini

Labayen Dance/SF performed a sneak preview at the National Queer Arts Festival of "Carmina Burana:Revisited". The work showed Enrico Labayen at his best; powerfully, sensual women dominate the stage with provocative choreography that is rooted in the classical idiom but has a contemporary perspective.



Diana Tkachenko in Labayen’s “Tadtarin”

Poetic and strong solos performed by the sensually delicious Diana Tkachenko, poetic and scorching Daiane Lopes dominated the stage, simple but full of nuanced solo beautifully performed by Diane Mateo, amazingly fast-paced trio danced violently by Leda Pennell, Morgan Eichwald and Irene Hsao. The ensemble work is polished, well tended details from the tip

of the fingers to the end of their feet. No silly tutus here, just strong women that will kick your ass and look good while doing it.



Diane Mateo in “Tadtarin”

The excerpted version shown at the Garage Art/Space is worth waiting for when Labayen Dance/SF premieres the full length version of this powerful work in July 23-25 at Dance Mission Theatre. It could possibly be this summer’s treat.

Joe Landini, is an independent dance critic and writer. He is the artistic director of SAFEhouse/GarageArtSpace

Photos: Weidong Yang