

First night 24th of November 06 at Espace Nuithonie, Villars-sur-Glâne/Fribourg (ch)
A co-production with Espace Nuithonie, Villars-sur-Glâne and Tanzhaus Wasserwerk, Zurich

60 minutes duration without intermission



photo: Christian Glaus

choreography: **Béatrice Jaccard, in collaboration with the dancers** direction: **Peter Schelling**
assistant of director and dramaturgy: **Sigrid Schonlau**
danse: **Béatrice Jaccard, Judith Rohrbach, Slava Zoubkov, Massimo Bertinelli**
music: **François Gendre & Massimo Bertinelli**
set: **Peter Schelling & Ronald Doerfler** light design: **François Gendre**
costumes: **Yvonne Forster** mask: **Sylvia Tommasi** production management: **Beatrice Rossi**

With the kind support of
Kulturförderung der Stadt Zürich, Fachstelle Kultur Kanton Zürich, Pro Helvetia – Schweizer Kulturstiftung,
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An intimate piece with its language of movement, ranging from the poetic to the reckless, “amours et délices” presents farce by, for once, demonstrating to its audience a life of feminine coquetry.

Forlorn, longing and lusting men throw furtive glances. But the women are happily dancing in pairs, lost in their own dreams. Each of them is motivated by an unspoken affection for the other.

Each being the mirror of the other, but still remaining herself.

As the incarnation of comic strip characters, who transform themselves from marionette, to vamp and then to girl friend, they lead their masculine companions up the garden path, ensuring their frustration so that they are beside themselves and thoroughly confused.

The whole creation is turned topsy-turvy, thoroughly shaken up and distorted.

The men remain in the background, casting no shadow, remain in the background.

If the women do not energise them, they restlessly drift through the corridors increasingly aimless as creatures of impulse.

“Amours et Délices” is a poetical dance production full of casual malice and absurd wit. Not just simply pleasure.

Press excerpts

IN THE THEATRE NUITHONIE DRIFT DANCES A COMEDY OF THE SEXES

“...All of the ‘driftesque’ art becomes evident in this production. The extreme precision in the movement sequences, as well as the very far-reaching deconstruction of everyday gestures create a dreamlike and a touching effect. The choreography often has a sensual appeal and ensures that bodies combine with increasing enthusiasm, until suddenly a plethora of meanings stem from those motions. And all this takes place in a lighting design of absolute perfection....Drift draws much of its inspiration from contemporary theatre. And in this respect the Compagnie was absolutely overwhelming yesterday. When the four female dancers adopt a burlesque character, they are absolutely irresistible. Seduction, a witty summary of life from birth to death and an unintelligible torrent of words is brought to the stage by means of extremely precise burlesque gestures and mime....In addition, the plot of “Amours et Délices” is well-conceived, has no longueurs, but a progressive dramatic development....This production funny, inspired and definitive merits its applause. The audience at the Nuithonie reacted with extended ovations...”

La Liberté, Fribourg, 25th November 2006

FEMININE MISCHIEF“...Creation is made topsy-turvy, shaken up thoroughly or at least distorted and displaced....Jaccard and Rohrbach play two invented feminine comic strip characters, who metamorphosing from marionette, to vamp and then to girlfriend, lead their masculine companions up the garden path. They make the men frustrated and confused...the course of life turns into a burlesque of the closed loop: Seduction, birth, death....The blissful world of Cupids has become anarchic. ...Although “Amours et Délices” arrives with colour and wit it is not simply about pleasure. As an intimate play with its language of movement, ranging from poetic to reckless expression, “Amours et Délices” emphasises its effect of buffoonery by demonstrating to its audience life for once as feminine coquetry. Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zürich, 7.12.06

SEDUCTIVE ART, EXTREMELY LOPSIDED

...poetic dance theatre full of haphazard malice and absurd witticism. The language of motion – a concise and often sharp-edged abstraction of everyday gestures – is unmistakable. It is remarkable that Drift, after long years of cooperation, is still able to come up with new and subtle distinction, thereby creating fresh interpretations of motion...which come along with a profound melancholy, but the moment some malice appears, they generate great humour. Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich, 7th December 2006

COUPLE

"....A feast for the eyes.

...'Amours et Délices' is a playful and often acrobatic choreography....in addition to desire and endeavour, companionship and competition between the sexes also seek a balance that is always fragile, often threatening to collapse. P.S. the leftist Zurich Daily, Zurich, December 2006

FRAGILE AUTONOMY

"...Dealing with the two worlds of men and women...If a woman glances suddenly at a man he will be electrified, as if possessing the wrong polarity,...in close-up, a tragic aggressiveness can be detected. If one (man) enters (by force) a woman's autonomy, her world even including her limbs disintegrates. The female joints then seem to hold together only with difficulty....an exciting evening...brimming with action. The Fribourg audience showed that it knows to appreciate quality and originality...." Freiburger Nachrichten, Fribourg 27th November 2006

SURREAL "MOTION PICTURES", ALL IN RED

"...The initial interpretation is instantly thwarted. Subtle clownery is followed by lusty pranks, acrobatic scuffles by minimal allusions, hectic stress by contemplative concentration, virtuosic body control by maladroit clumsiness, the self-assured demonstration of strength by total exhaustion.... Der Landbote, Zurich, 7th December 2006