
THE NEW YORK TIMES

GLOBALISATION AND CULTURAL IDENTITY UNITED IN THE SAME SHOW.

The show entitled Màm performed at Théâtre Sénart, on December 17th 2024 reveals how much globalisation impacts people and cultures through this Irish cultural show, delivering a touching message based on senses and emotions any human being has felt and shared.



The hall was filled with a lot of people to attend these 2 MAM performances at Théâtre Sénart.

Up to 800 people came the 17th and 18th December 2024 to immerse themselves into Ireland its roots and mythological traditions taken straight out of inspiration of the choreographer Michael Keegan Dolan and what its western village inspired him and his team to create the show.

About 20 dancers from England, Japan, and many other countries gathered in Ireland to create this unique show, inspired by the traditional music of the Irish musician Cormac.

During that performance there are solos, many duets at the same time on stage, or steps done all together, either folkloric or modern, local or universal.

Everybody can feel the vibe of Irish melodies and rhythms, and share the same emotions worldwide without any word.

This hybrid touching and sensual work plunges us into the mystical atmosphere of the peninsula of Dingle.

A moving message

This show expresses the violence and hardness but also the joy and euphoria of life, love and relationships through the steps, moves, music and setting on stage.

In a nutshell, it highlights what it is to be human.

The dance and music allow to create such an atmosphere that makes the spectators feel the presence of Irish ancestors into their DNA, as if this gathering they are invited to share a past that returns all along the steps and moves on stage.

Globalisation on the meaning of the show

This performance refers to Irish traditions and mythology with the legend of a goat supposed to marry a girl from the village the choreographer lives, but also hints at Catholic religion with this gathering that could refer to the religious communion or burial of the girl surrounded by her family.

All adults being dressed in black, and the girl being dressed in white, we may think she is an angel or a ghost, visiting the livings.

Catholic religion and pagan culture are mixed together during the performance that includes moments of division and connection with the Irish tradition and culture.

Globalisation on stage itself

Globalisation impacts the show in several ways, merging classic and Irish music, modern and traditional steps or moves ; but also mixing colourless clothes and outfits referring to Europe and accessories like the head of the goat referring to Irish Mythology.

Irish culture however deeply keeps its roots on stage through the music of Cormac, the Irish composer and musician of the group, and tap dancing steps and spinning it inspired the dancers when they created the show.

8 weeks in a small village nearby Dingle allowed the dancers to get its atmosphere and soul, delivering on stage a modern artistic open window on past traditions of the Emerald isle.

By Kahina.