



Ressort: Kunst, Kultur und Musik

A Transformative Dance of Resistance:

ImpulsTanz Vienna, 21.07.2024 [ENA]

In a stark, evocative performance, Davi Pontes and Wallace Ferreira present “Repertório N2,” the second part of their collaborative Repertório Trilogy. This compelling dance piece, performed in the raw and vulnerable state of nakedness, offers a powerful counter-narrative to the structural and political violence endemic to the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro. By choosing dance as their medium, Pontes and Ferreira transform an art form into a practice of self-defense and a vehicle for new thinking, liberating themselves from the prevailing norms and stigmas imposed on body and identity.

The performance begins with the duo standing naked before their audience, a bold statement that immediately challenges societal conventions and confronts the viewers with a raw human vulnerability. This nudity is not merely for shock value; it serves as a profound metaphor for the stripping away of societal expectations and prejudices. It invites the audience to see the performers not as stigmatized bodies but as individuals reclaiming their narrative through movement.

Pontes and Ferreira’s dance is a fluid yet powerful expression of resistance. Their movements are both fierce and graceful, a poignant juxtaposition that reflects the dual nature of their struggle—against violence and for identity. The choreography skillfully blends elements of traditional dance with martial arts, creating a unique form of expression that serves as both a symbolic and literal act of self-defense. This fusion underscores the message that dance is not just an art form but a means of survival and resistance.

One of the most striking aspects of “Repertório N2” is how it addresses the performance of violence in a way that undermines its usual imagery. Rather than depicting violence through aggressive gestures or reenactments, Pontes and Ferreira subvert it by transforming violent motions into dance, thereby reclaiming their bodies and their stories. This subversion is deeply moving and thought-provoking, encouraging the audience to reconsider their perceptions of violence and victimhood.

The rhythm and intensity of the performance, enhanced by an evocative soundscape, keep the audience entranced from start to finish. Pontes and Ferreira’s synchronicity and the emotional depth conveyed through their movements testify to their exceptional skill and deep understanding of their craft. Their ability to maintain such a powerful presence while conveying complex themes is a testament to their talent and dedication.

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In 2022, Davi Pontes and Wallace Ferreira received the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers’ Award, a recognition that speaks volumes about the impact and significance of their work. Their innovative approach to dance as a form of self-defense and resistance not only captivates audiences but also challenges and expands the boundaries of contemporary dance.

“Repertório N2” is more than a dance performance; it is a bold statement against violence and a call for a reimagining of how we view and treat the human body. Pontes and Ferreira’s work is a testament to the power of art to transform, heal, and empower. Their performance is an inspiring reminder that even in the face of systemic oppression, there is room for grace and resilience.

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