



UAPRESENTS STUDENT CRITIC PROGRAM

Paul Taylor Dance Company Review by Burgundy Houk

On the evening of October 21st, UApresents hosted the performance of The Paul Taylor Dance Company. The Paul Taylor Dance Company has been performing for over a century and has created many award winning dances.

In the first piece, nine dancers performed; six men and three women. This dance was calm and peaceful. The performers danced around the stage with ease, making it seem as if anyone could perform what it took years to perfect. The dance was about men trying to woo women, and I was surprised and a bit pleased to find a lot of things comical about it. They danced to a classical tune that lasted about 30 minutes! One could say that the dance was entertaining at the beginning; however, it was hard not to drift off into thought for the last ten minutes of it.

The second piece was much more entertaining. The dance was performed with a total of twelve dancers, including four women and eight men. The dance was inspired from a Bible verse in the book Hebrews of the Old Testament. The piece depicted struggle between people. One character was an outcast, perhaps a coward, a traitor, or maybe something else. I saw this character as temptation. The other eleven dancers were afraid of or disliked this character and worked together as a force. The music was lively, and changed tones from what you would think of as happy music to a thunderous, commanding tone. The dance was outstanding and I never once thought I was going to tune out what was going on before my eyes.

The company most definitely saved the best for last. The third piece depicted the Great Depression. It consisted of various songs and backdrops. While watching this piece I had mixed emotions. I felt as if at times the dancers were trying to romanticize the Great Depression. It was as if they were saying that they were never without work and all they had to do was wake up and go work for their bread. This was not the case. However, overall the dance was amazing, the best one by far. The music was entertaining and the dance was easy to follow. The changing backdrop was gorgeous, and the costumes were all different and unique.

Overall, the Paul Taylor Dance Company is outstanding. The music, choreography, and costumes all made the show very enjoyable. The Paul Taylor Dance Company can look forward to entertaining many audiences in the years to come. I would love to be able to see them dance again and see what other dances they have given to society.