



UAPRESENTS STUDENT CRITIC PROGRAM

Savion Glover *Bare Soundz* Review

By Rubi Duran

On Saturday November 13, 2010, at The University of Arizona Centennial Hall, Savion Glover presented *Bare Soundz*, an incredible concert-style production, although it seemed to be too much of a good thing.

Savion Glover, along with two fellow tap masters, Marshall Davis Jr. and Maurice Chestnut, stood on their individual square platform as the lights brightened and immediately without introduction started dancing. Like a roar of thunder was inside of Centennial Hall, their feet pounded out rhythms at a vibrating speed. My jaw literally dropped for five minutes until I realized that they were actually moving that quickly. They transformed the dance into music with the sound of jazz and Caribbean arising from their feet, nonstop, beat after beat. Their shirts drenched in sweat showed that the energy did not just come from their feet, but from their entire body, head to toe.

However, these tap dancers were more than just pairs of nimble legs and feet. Their brilliance brought out more than a sound, even a sense of humor through tap dancing lets us know more of what is behind each step. They crafted comical steps that inspired many people to giggle, especially the younger children. People of all ages grooved to the beats with a smile on their face as if they were imagining something in their minds. Personally I was imagining a jungle or forest, it just seemed like it would fit the beat. There was simply an amazing amount of liveliness every time their feet touched the ground that it even seemed to make my heart go faster.

It appeared as if it was over when the three dancers walked off their individual platforms; however they were just getting started. The dancers transitioned to one platform to a dance battle where they would each take turns smoothly switching on and off, each having their own solo while the two standing off behind moved their bodies with the rhythm. There was absolutely no pause between each dancer as the other went on before the person dancing would step off. With an incredible amount of stamina and persistence, these dancers are the true definition of perseverance.

I could not imagine the amount of heart and work these men put into each move; but an hour and a half of pure dance percussion was not entertaining. Yes, they most definitely kept the energy, but it started to get repetitive. I expected the dancers to talk more other than Savion Glover thanking the people who helped make the show possible and saying that it was his mother's birthday. He did sing for a while, and that did add something different, but it was only at the end. Maybe for people who are really into tap dancing would have loved the fact that he did not talk, but I need variation or I get tired of the same thing over and over.

Nevertheless, *Bare Soundz* was an interesting experience. The dancers Savion Glover, Marshall Davis Jr. and Maurice Chestnut emphasize the art of tap dancing and let their feet do all the talking.