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Irrepressible zest for life

Dance in the theater

(jes) Young, dynamic and eager to experiment – all these qualities are united in River North Chicago Dance Company. On Wednesday, the ensemble from the United States of America opened the ballet and dance season in the theater with a performance of pure zest for life.

These dancers are aglow when they appear on stage: Each exceedingly difficult pirouette or figure is performed with a smile. Every movement exhibits unbelievable body tension. This company which dedicated itself to modern Jazz dance and its contemporary tendencies nearly 20 years ago is renowned as one of the most dynamic ensembles in the U.S.

Each member is not only a superb dancer, but nice to look at as well. Jazz dance has not been this sexy for a long time. Whether it is the solo “Beat” by Monique Haley, who performed to a pulsating rhythm with movements extending all the way to her fingertips – it received the most enthusiastic applause - or the improvisation “Take a Seat” with chairs, in which the dancers could sometimes only use their legs. All choreographies demonstrate aesthetics and irrepressible zest for life, spiced with humor.

Breathtakingly beautiful was the Pas de Deux “The Morning” to Russian music. In the medium of dance; it is impossible to express the love between two people more passionately. However, this enormous ability of theatrical expression deserved more attention. Sadly, the ensemble performed for an audience that was much too small.