

Chispa Flamenca

Review by Jonathan Holds, 5 sept 2011
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Date of Show: Saturday, 3rd September 2011
Venue: Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre
Saturday night if you had been at the Nexus Cabaret you would have been lucky enough to see an evocation of the very soul of Andalusia.

The tango set at the start of the evening brought to mind the bars of La Boca in Buenos Aires, and the passion and strength of El Titi, the vocalist for the ensemble, would have got the most heartless of audience members whooping and cheering with his devastating vocal control. Simply put, El Titi spoke directly to the soul

The band consisted of two guitarists and a percussionist of whom Alain Valodze on guitar was the standout of the evening.

The night was a tight and highly organised affair. The sets were quick with no time wasted. There was not a loose thread or poor performance in the entire evening.

However, in a production filled with excellent performances the show was absolutely stolen by Kristy Manuel who, whether dancing ensemble or singularly, showed a grace, beauty and strength in both her technique and her overall performance. Coupled with her physical beauty, she was one act that the audience were not able to take their eyes off for a second.

Manuel made her dancing seem as effortless as the wind without losing a single moment of precision. Overall a top-notch dancer and one name you should look out for on coming flamenco shows.

All in all a top show. All will look forward to this company's next show.

