Ballet Frontier of Texas was at the top of their game for their opening night performance of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream.* Company Director Chung-Lin Tseng’s choreography is stunning and entertaining as he highlights the plethora of talent, he and Artistic Advisor, Enrica Tseng, have painstakingly nurtured. The hard work appears to have paid off!

From fairies to thespians and quarreling lovers to monarchies, Mr. Tseng has created an enchanting spectacle with his “Dream”. The charm and wit of Tseng’s choreography is clever and refreshing. Throughout the first act the audience is moved to laughter, staying true to what Shakespeare intended when he wrote a tale of shenanigans and happy endings. The beautiful costumes and enchanting set whisk the audience away to a land of fairy tales and love stories. One is impressed with how the sets seem to be custom made for the IM Terrell Theater. Although prerecorded music is utilized, the choice by Mr. Tseng to add additional works by Felix Mendelsohn is a good creative move compared to other versions where sections of the original score are repeated to lengthen the ballet.

The skills and charisma of the company were apparent in this performance. From Carlin Dixon’s regal *Hippolyta* to Teresa Bowden’s captivating *Tatiana,* the company women show they can shine in commanding roles. Sheng Ming Hsu was a debonair *Theseus* and complemented his partner (Dixon) well. Autumn Klein (*Helena)* and Abigail Richards (*Hermia)* were impressive with their crisp timing and expressive lyricism. Their partners Masanao Ito (*Demetrius)*and David Huang (*Lysander)* were also a joy to watch. Mr. Ito’s partnering skills were particularly outstanding. He and Ms. Klein moved as if they were one. He gave her wings as she floated from promenade to jete lift seamlessly. There was an effervescence in their partnership that was impossible to ignore. Beatrice Reyes gave a phenomenal performance as *Puck.* She is tiny but mighty, as she executes double saut de basque and double tour en l'air (typically performed by male dancers) effortlessly while inviting the audience into her world with enigmatic charm. Reyes’s *Puck* is a perfect side kick to Kyle Baird’s austere and power-hungry *Oberon*. Mr. Baird’s strong presence and fluid lines made for a graceful performance.

Mr. Tseng and Ballet Frontier of Texas continue to bring joy and beauty to the stage! The talent and quality are impressive for such a young company. The excitement in the audience was palpable during Ballet Frontier’s performance of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and gives one hope that Fort Worth, Texas will continue to support such amazing talent. With artists hailing from around the world and Mr. Tseng’s unwavering commitment to bringing fine classical and contemporary ballet to Fort Worth audiences, the future looks bright for this fine company.

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