

DANCE NEWS

Stockholm Dance News and Reviews by Kiana Moberg

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A Close Look to an Amazing Project

It was a welcome surprise last Saturday to see the presentation of "A Close look at El Padre" by Ballet Flamenco La Rosa in collaboration with Compaso Flamenco.

This performance and lecture showed the audience an in-depth and up-close look at their compelling and intense interpretation of the classic Strindberg play "The Father", using Flamenco music and dance to create "El Padre". This sensitive and thoughtful treatment of the Strindberg work showed a mastery of both the art of Flamenco and the essence of theatre.

I was particularly impressed by the character development within the structure of the music and dance.

The performers were each super in their roles, both as dancers and as actors. Their technique was pristine, offering the best of what we expect from Flamenco—the powerful footwork, elegant line and movement and a deep passion at times restrained and at times explosive. The music was perfectly crafted to create the atmosphere and inspiration for every moment in the development of the story, and played beautifully by Manantial. The style developed by Ilisa Rosal for this work, incorporating traditional Flamenco with an authentic feel of the period and the characters of Strindberg was brilliant.

I applaud both the selection of the artists and the masterful direction by Ms. Rosal, which achieved a very original and exciting new take on this great play.

She is herself a consummate dancer, and when is on stage it is clear that she is a force to be reckoned with. I especially appreciate the fact that she collaborated with our Swedish artists who brought a strong presence and added to the many layers of this work. I hope that they have more opportunities to work with Ballet Flamenco La Rosa. This is clearly a meaningful partnership.

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Carmela Greco and Josefina Chiacchiero performing in "Al Padre"