



SUD OUEST
MONDAY FEBRUARY 9TH, 1998

BALLET

The ascension of *Giselle*

The Ballet of the Bordeaux Opera performs *Giselle*. Monique Loudières, star of the Paris Opera, interprets the lead role

[caption]

A *Giselle* that we thought we know is rediscovered
(Photo Philippe Taris)

When the Ballet of the Bordeaux Opera planned its production of *Giselle*, which it presented last year, again, it owed it to itself to do better. If only with the *pas de dix* in the first act. It clashes with the memory of last season's horrible mess. Overall, the mess gave way to better-organized ensembles. The dancers gain in unity. All at once, from a more coherent view, the entire company gives itself over to more mature and marked emotions, which are the result of a year's work.


The opposite would have been awkward, especially when there are two big soloists. However, there too, the impression left by Charles Judes (Albert) and Monique Loudières (*Giselle*), stars of the Paris Opera, contrasts with the romantic clothing adorned for their roles as Andrei Fedotov and Elena Penkova in January 1997. An unrefined and cruel dimension is added to the idealism of feelings, a realism in the movement the dancer uses to build her role.

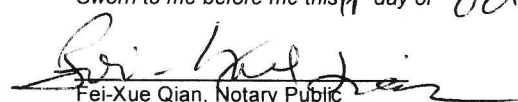
The scene where she goes mad is particularly poignant, so much so that the character, who up until then seemed attached to the earth, contorts herself from despair before changing into a Wilis. It would seem that, in order to do this, Dominique Loudières displaces her center of gravity.

And, it is with the same evocative power that Philippe Béran makes the Orchestre National Bordeaux-Aquitaine resonate, in an upsurge of atmosphere and with a sense, both naïve and epic, of narration. So many good reasons to rediscover a *Giselle* that we thought we know.

Last Friday, at the Grand-Théâtre de Bordeaux. Performances tonight and on February 10 and 11, at 8:00 pm. Information: 05.56.48.58.54.

Michael Kowalewski, a professional translator of French into English, has translated the attached document under contract to 1-800-Translate, an American Translators Association (ATA) corporate membership company. We have examined the document and have found it to be a complete and accurate translation of the original provided to us.


Janneth Alfaro, Project Manager

State of New York, County of New York
Sworn to me before me this 17th day of Oct. 2007

Fei-Xue Qian, Notary Public

Fei-Xue Qian
No. 01Q16057816
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires April 23, 2011