

ROSES AND FALL [2005]



35MM FILM, DOLBY SR, COLOUR
7 MINUTES
FRENCH SPOKEN, ENGLISH SUBTITLED

‘SOBER AND YET EMOTIONAL FILM ABOUT NIJINSKY’S ARTISTIC AND MENTAL DECLINE.’

CREDITS

CHOREOGRAPHY / DANCE / VOICE:
JEAN-GUILLAUME WEIS
IMAGE / SOUND / EDITING:
BEA DE VISSER
MUSIC: KLAR
PRODUCTION: ANOTHERFILM
WORLDPREMIERE:
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM, 26TH JANUARY 2006

ROSES AND FALL

Les gens ont compris que j'étais fou. Je n'étais pas fou. Je suis Nijinski. Je dance. Je crois. Je suis Dieu...

People say I am mad. I am not mad. I am Nijinsky. I dance. I believe. That I am God...

This sober and yet emotional film with dancer Jean-Guillaume Weis visualises the artistic development and the last days of the famous dancer Vaslav Nijinsky in an asylum. At the time, he was writing his diary, which is quoted in the film, and which not only indicates his mental state, but also his desire for love and recognition from the general public.

Comments

The film adapts the diary of Nijinsky as the main source to discover the heart and soul of one of the great dancers of the 20th century. Scandal and pride, uproar and applause, flight and fall guided him

during his career. The final madness is his gain and the asylum his last station. He writes the diary during this period. It reads as a long monologue of despair, loneliness, lust, sexual obsession and longing for being loved by the masses. The film reflects Nijinsky's artistic development and his mental decay. Dance is an extreme transfer of human emotions and it is to Jean-Guillaume Weis' power to express the layers underneath the skin to reveal the spirit of Nijinsky, showing him nowadays.

Jean-Guillaume Weis (Luxembourg)

With Pina Bausch he starts his career as a dancer after his return from New York. Back in Luxembourg he develops his choreographies that possess a strong theatrical charisma.

In spring 2006 two productions, *Catastrophe* and *Rooms*, are the next performances together with a theatre-film design of Bea de Visser. In 2005 Weis performed in De Visser's theatre-film design for a production as part of the Diaghilev Festival in Groningen.

Bea de Visser (The Netherlands) starts her career as a performing artist, goes on stage making sound works, live installations and 'noise' performances on stages of trendy venues and alternative artist's spaces. She follows by a two years residency at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam ('93-'94). From that time onwards film becomes her medium. The work she develops ever since is shown in museums and art galleries and also particularly the cinema, the theatre and the street.

Other films by Bea de Visser

Just a Minute Yoko, 1" [2004] - *The Second Memory*, 11" [2004] -
The Barren Land, 8" [2001] - *Another Another*, 8" [1999] -
A Breath Hush, 8" [1996]