

DANZA

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

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COVER STORY

COJOCARU
KOBORG
POLUNIN

PEOPLE

EUN-ME
AHN

PEOPLE

OLIVIER
DUBOIS

WOMEN OF STYLE

MARGOT
FONTEYN

DANZA

NO.14 JULY/AUGUST 2019

ENGLISH LANGUAGE



Sebastian Kloborg, Kizzy Matiakis and Tobias Praetorius in Marcos Morau's "Carmen". Kloborg and Maria Kochetkova in Millepied's "Closer" (© A. Sarkar)

DANCE SALAD FESTIVAL DELICIOUS MIX

HOUSTON Every Easter weekend Dance Salad Festival returns to Houston bringing a piquant mix of freshly picked dance bites from across Europe. Lovingly curated by director Nancy Henderek, DSF2019 ranged from solos to full company works. Top of the bill were works by two of the most creative minds currently working in dance: Alexander Ekman and Marcos Morau. Ekman's world is a phantasmagoria of the mundane and the magical, the childhood past and high-tech future. *COW* premiered at Dresden Semperoper covers it all, with the essence extracted in a video of Christian Bauch's melancholic reimagining of himself as 'cow'. Bauch's Cow meets Courtney Richardson's Elk and as the video fades, her fine-tuned athletic form leaps onto the stage complete with antlers. Ekman's ingenuity never ceases to amaze. Moreau's *Carmen*, similarly byzantine and hugely controversial, tracks the heady myth of Carmen, while parodying celebrity and paparazzi adulation. Carmen reinvents herself from femme fatale lurking behind the beaded fringe of a huge cartwheel hat, next as a manipulated doll-like creature in voluminous red skirt, and then a deliciously flirty blonde suffused with frills and fan. There is some sharp choreography to Shchedrin's percussive score and brilliant, witty characterisations from the talented dancers of Danish Royal Ballet including Sebastian Kloborg. Kloborg also partnered Maria Kochetkova in Benjamin Millepied's *Closer*. Amazingly, in a crowded programme, this



understated duet stood apart, transporting us to an intimate world of deep emotion. *Unravel*, by noteworthy newcomer Kristian Lever, also featured Royal Danish dancers. Lever's language is dense and distinctive, interpreting a restless relationship that never quite resolves. Italy was represented by Mauro Astolfi's Spellbound Contemporary Ballet Company of superb quality dancers. *Full Moon*, was as deep and mysterious as the subject, itself, bristling with allusions and references built on his layered choreography that takes ballet to another level. **Maggie Foyer**