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TH 08 ARTfix! Figure and Portrait Drawing with Andy Jordan

February 8 @
6:15 pm - 8:45 pm

Space One
Eleven

FRI 09 Early Music Concert - Ensemble Tapestry

February 9 @
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Independent
Presbyterian
Church

SU 11 IPC Choir Concert: Requiem and Solo Works of Maurice Duruflé

February 11 @
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Independent
Presbyterian

DANCE REVIEW | AROVA, 'DRENCHED'

DANCE | OCTOBER 28, 2017 | 0 | BY RACHEL HELLWIG



"Hiraeth." Photo by Clark Scott.

AROVA Contemporary Ballet's "DRENCHED," performed last weekend at **The Dance Foundation**, offered moving works which channeled the company's unique voice in the Birmingham dance scene. On a whole, it was the best program I've seen them perform since I started attending their performances two years ago.

Amy Morrow's "Hiraeth," adapted from a work of the same name which premiered in 2016, was a canvas layering abstract stories within stories — familiar human experiences, but open to individual interpretation. The score incorporated instrumental works with songs by artists such as Billie Holiday and Johnny Cash. The movement style included floor work, lyricism and the simple power of emotionally charged, nondance movement. Tapping into themes of reminiscence, adolescence, first love, uncertainty about moving forward in life and, ultimately, the bittersweet acceptance of moving on and letting go, it was the type of dramatic palette that AROVA's artists excel in and create the most evocative onstage worlds in.

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Church

SU
25
**Service of
Choral
Evensong**

February 25 @
4:00 pm - 5:00
pm

Independent
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"DRENCHED." Photo by Melissa Dooley.

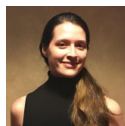
Ashley McQueen's "DRENCHED" took four dancers on an emotional, symbolic journey through the facets of change — apprehension, struggle and, in this case, eventual triumph. The score by Olafur Arnalds, Nils Frahm and Stephen Moccio provided an atmosphere to the choreography along with the sounds of water (yes, real water) falling like rain into a shallow pool onstage from a device above it. The water, which the performers immersed themselves in and embodied with their movements, gave a visceral charge to the work. Like "Hiraeth," it was well-suited to the abstract storytelling abilities of the company.

Reviewed from Oct. 22 performance

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AMY MORROW AROVA CONTEMPORARY BALLET ASHLEY MCQUEEN
DRENCHED THE DANCE FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



RACHEL HELLWIG

Rachel Hellwig is a dance writer, editor and blogger based in Birmingham, Alabama. She is an assistant editor at 4dancers.org, a freelancer for various publications, and created the ballet blog Clara's Coffee Break.

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AROVA TO MIX
DANCE AND
WATER IN
'DRENCHED'

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