

FINANCIAL TIMES

USA Wednesday June 10 2009

USA \$2.50 Canada C\$3.00



'Keynesian revolution was not a triumph of good science but of good judgment'

Robert Skidelsky Comment Page 9

World Business Newspaper



Bonsai bonus
Are bankers better off with Japanese or western deals?
Page 10

The beauty in solid technique

DANCE

A Celebration of Louise Nadeau

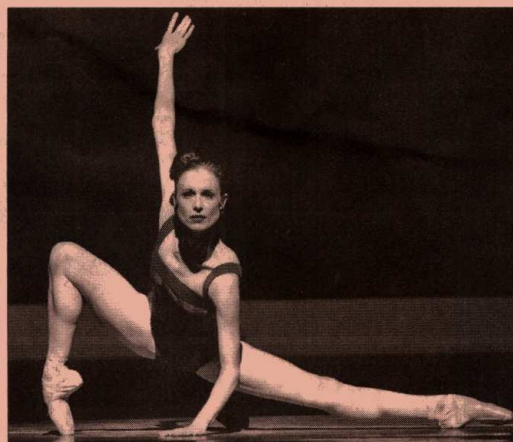
McCaw Hall, Seattle

The Seattle dance community filled McCaw Hall on June 7 for the farewell performance of Louise Nadeau, principal at Pacific Northwest Ballet for 17 years. The two-and-a-half-hour programme featured 10 excerpts of Nadeau's favourite roles, plus William Forsythe's *Urlicht*, acquired especially for this occasion.

The works serve as an apt catalogue of the qualities Nadeau brought to the stage: the serene purity of *Serenade*, the line and refinement of *La Valse*, the lyrical joy of *Emeralds* and the merry romp of *Rubies*, the nobility of *Chaconne*, the sassy snap of *West Side Story Suite*, the sacred depth of *Urlicht*, the stamina and intensity of *La Sonnambula*, the passion and humour of *In the Night*, the radiant extension of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the delicate precision of *Swan Lake*. All that was missing was the iron strength of her *Agon* pas de deux (recorded for the Balanchine Foundation's Interpreters Archive series) and the wit of her *Merry Widow*.

Nadeau shared the lead roles with fellow company members, who, after an exhausting season of 17 ballets (10 company premieres), mustered energy for one final, sparkling performance. *Urlicht* proved to be the evening's highlight: Nadeau and Olivier Wevers achieved seamless, fluid lifts, as Nadeau called upon the solid technique, intelligence and determination that have made possible her 26-year career.

At 45, she seems to be at the peak of her abilities; indeed, her June 2009 performances – which included four pieces new to her repertoire – figured among her best. Emotions ran high during the 10-minute standing ovation at the end. Nadeau brought her heart and her musicality



Louise Nadeau in Paul Gibson's 'The Piano Dance'

A. Sterling

to every role, season after season. She sought the perfect beauty residing in each ballet, and she shared it with us. ★★★★★

Rosie Gaynor