

The Donohue Blog

by Maura Nguyen Donohue

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NEW YORK -- The DanceNOW [NYC] fall festival is exactly the kind of blood rush to the head one needs to clear away a summer's fog. Kicking into its 15th anniversary season this week at Dance Theater Workshop, the festival (in which my company is also performing) opened last night with a shining example of what it does best by giving us little bits of gold mined from a field of plenty.

Ellis Wood is the incarnation of a goddess in her solo "Venus Through The Ages" (excerpt). Wood is a terrifying combination of raw abandon and laser-beam precision, unwieldy and cracked but still brilliantly perfect and on point. As she dances, she appears to be engulfed by humanity but exploding time and space as if they were toys in her infinite playground. I found myself weeping at the beauty of it all.