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# >>> Review: ProArteDanza's Season 2016 is an exhilarating double bill

Works by Robert Glumbek and Roberto Campanella are full of intriguing ideas, graceful choreography and are executed with ferocious skill

BY **KATHLEEN SMITH**

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Photo: Guntar Kravis

**PROARTEDANZA: SEASON 2016** choreography by Robert Glumbek and Roberto Campanella (ProArteDanza). At Fleck Dance Theatre (207 Queens Quay West). Wednesday-Saturday (November 16-19) at 8 pm. \$25-\$45. 416-973-4000, [harbourfrontcentre.com](http://harbourfrontcentre.com). See [listing](#). Rating: **NNNN**

Over the past 12 years, Toronto-based contemporary ballet company **ProArteDanza** has built a loyal audience by presenting dynamic choreography delivered with attack and flair. The company's current program from resident choreographers **Robert Glumbek** and **Roberto Campanella** doesn't disappoint. I saw the show at Markham's Flato Theatre during the company's mini-tour of southern Ontario; it continues at the Fleck through Sunday.

Glumbek's **Diversion** uses lighting design by **Arun Srinivasan** and a menacing electronic score by **Marconi Union** to create an atmosphere of foreboding. Dancers emerge and vanish into dense haze at the back of the stage, embodying Glumbek's broad conceptual intent: disappearances, either expected or sudden.

The dancers are superb; arms slashing the air to gain height, they execute low runs or couple for insect-like duets and launch classical pirouettes directly into or out of more pedestrian movement. There is a wonderful sequence near the end as **Daniel McArthur** traverses the stage in a rectangle of light. One by one, women emerge from the wings and hurl themselves at his head. His progress, understandably, is slow.

Campanella's **Fearful Symmetries** shares some qualities with Glumbek's work but feels more influenced by pop culture themes and forms. The piece opens with a striking image: the dancers under bright lights, backs to audience, running in place. Driven by **John Adams's** hectic score, the work pays aesthetic tribute to the silent film era while commenting on the frenzied pace of modern living. Among the excellent dancers, **Tori Mehaffy** is able to achieve smooth movement combined with great speed; my eye was drawn to her ferocity again and again.

Both works capture their ideas in intriguing ways. But it's the quality of the choreography and the skill of the dancers delivering that make for such an exhilarating double bill.

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