

Review: Rambert, Draw From Within
By Sara Lamerton

Rambert at TRP - Turning Dreams into Reality

After what seems like a lifetime, the wait is finally over: TRP is back. And what better way to celebrate its freedom than with a world premiere. But not just any old world premiere. A Rambert world premiere.

For many of us, especially those in the arts sector, this past year has certainly felt like a surreal dream, at times. As we all know, waking from some dreams, particularly the vivid, intense kind, isn't always easy; a new reality must be faced.

Rambert's *Draw From Within*, choreographed by Wim Vandekeybus, took its first shape during lockdown. An instant hit online, the performance has now been reworked for the 'real world', and embarked on the first leg of its journey in Plymouth's most beloved space.

Described by the company as "A wild ride into the unknown. Some dream worlds, some full-on nightmares," and with little other information divulged before the audience takes their seat, Rambert certainly wasn't misrepresenting their new creation.

Draw From Within quickly sucks you into a surreal world that doesn't quite make sense, but one which captivates you from beginning to end, leaving you dazed and delighted as you emerge from the other side.

This twisting, turning, ethereal performance simply and poignantly showcases the cast's extraordinary talent, contorting their physiques into shapes and positions as us mere mortals simply watch in awe. Their effortless athleticism leaves you wishing you hadn't been so slothful during lockdown, and, even though individual performances stand out, they're never used to out shine the collective. *Draw From Within* is firmly a group effort, a masterclass in how each uniquely moving part creates a graceful, unstoppable machine to drive you forward into the unknown.

And, just like the depths of the subconscious worlds we strangely inhabit every night, the show catapults your senses from one distinct scenario to another, disorientating and gripping you in increasingly darker, more obscure realms; both literally and figuratively birthing a new dawn for an industry patiently waiting to emerge like a butterfly from a cocoon. An industry desperate to return to what it does best: entertaining and inspiring people in unique and unforgettable ways.

For those who are fans of Rambert, you'll be familiar with their contemporary, otherworldly style. However, even if you haven't seen one of their performances, or experienced anything like *Draw From Within* before, you'll be hard pushed not to garner comfort from the knowledge that creativity, which encourages us to reach beyond the confines of our everyday waking realities and touch something outside of ourselves, is back and here to stay.

For theatre lovers, it doesn't get much better than that!

