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Wildly entertaining!

Snappy Dance Theater, a Boston-based company of seven performers, was brought to the Island by the Ministry of Community Affairs and Sport. After a week of appearances at local summer day camps, the company gave a wildly entertaining performance on Saturday night at the Ruth Seaton James auditorium.

They were preceded by three local acts that warmed up the audience □ gearing us for what was to come.

Those performers were solo hip-hoppers Stonea Eve □ putting a pep in the step at the beginning of the show and Rog □ r Philippe who fluently morphed into robotic combinations and back flipped into other break-dancing tricks □ receiving frequent shouts and applause from the audience.

Following them was the sassy salsa duet: Travis Gilbert and Angela Hayward, instructors at Sabor Dance School, who, in their elegant attire of red, black and white, drew in the crowd with their smiles and perfect synchronisation of twists and twirls.

Once the pair had wound down there appeared three of the Snappers for their first number □ Fall Collection □.

They immediately captured the crowd □ s attention as they warmly greeted us with a light-hearted, camera-posing scene before slipping into different shapes, as their connected bodies slid over each other like slugs on a tree.

The cutie-pa-tootie □ Pants □ choked up many chuckles throughout the audience.

It was a solo piece that looked so comical because what appeared to be a woman, wore long black work pants with heels in a bent over cone-like position and her hands, which wore sneakers as if those of a young boy, touched the floor in front of her.

With her head hidden □ as the boy wore orange pants that stretched up to the base of her neck □ all focus was on the two sets of shoes and her determination to teach the boy how to dance. A very original piece of puppetry.

The way in which the company made light of serious dances such as the tango and the ballet was also funny.

The tone was set immediately in □ Tango Tangle □ as the pair started off with an exaggerated inhale.

Between that number and □The Lavender Leotard□ there were many dramatic expressions and comical gestures such as sniffing underarms, the female dancer (with a goofy head piece that shot up above her head) being held upside down with her arms in fifth position and the male dancer jumping and wrapping his body around the waist of his partner before slowly sliding to the floor.

As blue and green lights emerged on a blackened stage the Snappy crew hit us with yet another giggle-provoking number: □Light Lunch□.

The lights bobbed and made cartoon-like sounds to the rhythm of a food chain.

We observed a fly-like creature being devoured by one slightly larger, which, after being content, was also eaten by an even larger one and so on until the giant-sized creature ended up being chased off the stage by another tiny fly-sized light.

It was evident that many young children were also enjoying this performance □ showing the diverse range of ages the show appealed to.

Despite the quirky moves and expressions these performers were multitalented and highly professional.

It was such a unique evening of non-stop variety and excitement.

Both male and female dancers showed great strength, trust and agility.

An example was when they supported each other by using their chests as human stepladders and walked upright in slow motion from one□s shoulder to another in □The Three Cousins□.

Surely their skills in dance, circus performing, theatre, martial arts, gymnastics and puppetry were vivid throughout the night □ receiving a well-deserved standing ovation.

Minister Dale Butler expressed his appreciation to both the entertainers and the audience for their presence at the beginning and end of the evening.

It was a refreshing, easy-going show that forced you to relax and be entertained.
