Photo by: Stephan Delas Heras
Frank Leone, Kristin Licata

Fragile Fabric

Dance Entropy performs at Green Space

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Valerie Green finds a way to mix old-school and current trends in her choreography; the mix feels undateable but not timeless. Her company, Dance Entropy, performed an evening-length version of *Impermanent Landscape* at Green Space, the Long Island City rehearsal and theater space she developed.

As the audience enters, an intentionally unclear sequence has dancers stepping from one placed mat to another as two leaders place and pick up the mats while muttering anxious phrases. This implies both a physically and emotionally "impermanent landscape," but it makes an odd and uncomfortable beginning, as the dancers crowd onto fewer and fewer mats and the phrases seem to grow more troubled.

The dancing, when it begins, is often physically demanding and often performed in solo turns, but there is an ensemble feel throughout. Odd juxtapositions abound, but *Impermanent Landscape* manages to stay cohesive. Big, dancey turns and jetés, group lifts, and ground-hugging crawling and rolling all share time and place. Whisper-in-the-ear audience manipulations have people shifting places around the stage, which is ringed with chairs. And bright, loose-knit cityscape panels layer the walls and lend a slightly crunchy earthiness.

Photo by Stephan Delas Heras
L-R: Kristin Licata, Yayoi Suzuki, Hana Ginsburg Tirosh

At its best, *Impermanent Landscape* has a mysterious, churning-liquid feel. Music/soundscape by Martyn Axe connects things very well, subtle enough to stay at the edge of perception but substantial enough to play a role. The dancers — Frank Leone, Kristin Licata, Jonathan Matthews, Yayoi Suzuki and Hana Ginsburg Tirosh — are solid performers and well-matched as a group.

For all its various components, references and techniques, *Impermanent Landscape* holds together and keeps the audience curious from start to finish.