

Critics' Choices: Best in the Arts for This Holiday Weekend



Isaacov Agor

Rina Schenfeld of Israel dances in the "Next Wave" festival this weekend at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Dance

The Ballet Folklórico of Mexico would seem the perfect entertainment for this holiday weekend. Back in New York for the first time in five years, the company remains true to its traditional mix of revue spectacle and folk custom. When Amalia Hernandez founded this, colorful troupe more than 25 years ago, it dazzled audiences throughout the world. Since then, the Folklórico has occasionally seemed less inspired than in those first years, and yet it has just as surprisingly rebounded in other periods with new dancers and such old favorites as the Yaqui Indian Deer Dance. The costumes have always been beautiful, the musicians merry, and there's much more to Mexican dances than the hat-oriented might think.

Performances are at the City Center on 55th Street. Matinees today and tomorrow at 2 P.M. and Sunday at 3. Evening performances tonight through Sunday are at 8. Tickets are \$5 to \$25 (246-8989, or Chargit, 944-9300).

The "Next Wave" series at the Brooklyn Academy of Music this fall has been the most stimulating of all the academy's experimental-art events, and the dance component has been dominant in the series. Rina Schenfeld, an Israeli dancer who was a founding member of the Batsheva Dance Company, is this weekend's dancer. Most of the choreographers in the series have collaborated with visual artists and architects this year. Miss Schenfeld uses art objects as extensions of her body. She will be at the academy's Lepercq Space tonight through Sunday at 8 and Sunday at 2. Tickets, \$8 (636-4100).

Anna Kisselgoff