#SpeakingInDance

Lar Lubovitch is Looking for Poets

Watch a portion of “Little Rhapsodies,” which features Mr. Lubovitch’s lush, flowing movement.

By Gia Kourlas

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#SpeakingInDance is a weekly visual exploration of dance on Instagram. Watch the video from our most recent post below, and follow us at @nytimes.
nytimes #SpeakingInDance | “It is the hardest piece of choreography that I’ve ever danced,” said Jonathan Emanuell Alsberry of his part in Lar Lubovitch’s “Little Rhapsodies,” an elegant male trio included in @lubovitch’s 50th anniversary program at the @thejoyce theater this week. “Much of the solo is done off balance. I’m thinking about the clarity of the steps, how they meld with the music and how I can play with shifts of weight.” In the dance, set to Schumann’s Symphonic Études (Op. 13), @jojodanzer fills the stage with the kind of lush, flowing movement that Lar is known for. The choreographer described it as “a bit like swimming.” In keeping with the music, Lar sees the dance as an étude, a study; it needs to be performed simply, without embellishments or affectation. The movement sets the tone — and the dancer, too. “I never give a dancer a line reading,” he told the @nytimes writer @giadk. “I never tell them what to think or feel. They have their own poetry to bring to the piece and it naturally comes to life because of the dancers I choose. I’m looking for poets.” @arowanafilms made this video for #SpeakingInDance, our weekly series exploring the world of #dance.

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