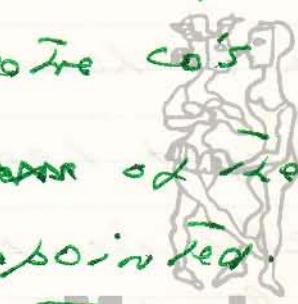


①

Havana-CUBA. NOV 2. 78

This is "Giselle" day in this fascinating city. There may be politics, world wide disturbances, but one thought is truly on, ~~time~~ & in the minds of thousands that occupy these homes, their offices. It is the day of Cuba's great lady of the Dance. A unique personage, a national living monument of youth, beauty & vigour. A miracle of this age. La Dama Alicia Alonso.

On Nov 2nd, 1943, she danced her first Giselle at The Metropolitan Opera House. She was replacing Alicia Markova, who was ill & would not be dancing for the rest of that Ballet Theatre 1943 season. Naturally many members of the dance public were ~~young~~, ~~old~~, disappointed. ~~but~~ ~~they~~ ~~were~~ ~~not~~ ~~disappointed~~. But 

(2)

② ~~WAGNER~~ I had plenty of time to
rehearse ~~THE~~ ^{her} rock, one of the most
exacting of any ~~xpecta~~, in the Romantic
repertoire of Ballet. Her solos, the
long sustained, adagio ~~Topetze~~ of act II
and so many details, that even ~~Ren~~,
~~Alonso~~
~~LAMAR~~ never lost sight of, & perfected
with the precision of clock work.

It was an eagerly awaited debut.

what
And, a debut. ~~THE~~ The most shattering,
startling ^{evening} ~~evening~~ of utter triumph.

It was a very proud "Albrecht," that
led her forward to be acclaimed by the
applause, cheers, & finally a standing
ovation. My memory is good. What
could have been her final call,

I brought her on, her hand ~~WAGNER~~
helped our mine was trembling. ~~that~~
I left her alone on stage, to ~~Recede~~
~~Museo Nacional de la Danza~~

(3)

The tribute of a public, that had
been amply rewarded for the
absence of the great monarch, or the
presence of now, the equally
great Alonso.

The years have gone by. Alicia
has added, more gold dust, more
lustre to the role, she loves. & will
always be remembered for "Griselle".

As I wrote those words, it is now 2/1978.
The performance is
~~monday~~ less than three hours away.

Thirty five years later, here in
Havana, at the Teatro Garcia Lorca.

at approximately 8:30. The indestructible
"Griselle" of our age, in the personage
of the miracle, that is Alicia Alonso

~~will~~ ^{give} ~~exude~~
will ~~show~~ her magic, her Cuban
beauty, her ~~maravilloso~~ ^{magical} ~~Tecnicate~~, &
the artistry that is so uniquely hers,



eight
PM

(4)

It is now ~~several~~ hours later.

Tamara Karsavina always called

"Priselle"; "her holy Garret";

^{now}

let me ^{now} please quote from the Holy
Bible. And so it came to pass.

Every word I wrote those hours
ago, ~~was~~ did come to pass.
The evening was sheer magic,
created by a magician of genius,
who cast her spell of dancing
divinity, on her adoring public.
Her devoted friends, her Three
past "Albrechts", Anton Dolin,
Igor Youskevitch, Assani Plesitska.
& The great man himself Feder Castro.

Anton Dolin



Musdanza
Museo Nacional de la Danza

LA HABANA, CUBA