

Les Ballets Trockadero *de Monte Carlo*



a feature documentary film

directed by
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THE TROCKS



Watching muscular men on pointe and in tutus is not just funny. It's an engaging parody, a fascinating portrait of men, a daring political statement and a remarkable performance to boot. This is the premise of **THE TROCKS**, a feature documentary that celebrates Les Ballets Trockadero of Monte Carlo, an all male dance company that has been entertaining audiences worldwide for nearly 40 years.

The film's treatment will pivot on stylized performance imagery, exclusive access with the company and character-driven narratives that take us into the personal stories of several dancers. Through archives and interviews, the film will also delve into the fascinating 40 year history of the troupe and how its evolution parallels the movement for gay rights and freedoms in North America and around the world. The result will be a captivating cinematic ride that is both entertaining and informative.

The film will reveal how the Trocks not only epitomise grace and poetry but how they differ from all ballet dancers and troupes. For one, the company is made up entirely of male dancers who also take on all the female roles. This entails wearing tutus and dancing en pointe [on their toes using special blocked-toe ballet shoes], an elegant but torturous exercise. "Honey, when you go up on those 'boots', as we call them," explains Italian dancer Davide Marongiu, "You get only one shot. If you go up and you're off, you fall."

The Trocks also distinguish themselves from other ballet companies through the use of impeccably delivered campy humour and parodies, while still actively encouraging the appreciation of the classical dance form. In fact, the Trocks as they are affectionately called by their worldwide fan base, perform tributes to heritage repertoire rarely staged by American or European ballet companies, including classics like Paquita, Les Sylphides, Don Quixote and The Dying Swan.

The Trocks documentary will embody this spirit and bring it all to the screen. The sheer multiplicity of levels of camp, the obsessive invocations of ballet history, the insistent performance and political activism, the goofy violence of slapstick comedy, all performed simultaneously on stage, with that elevated, perfect technique that causes nearly every critic to claim that the Ballets Trockadero are out performing both genders.

Our documentary will ultimately reveal all of this and more, proving how a ballerina is not a woman dancing - a ballerina is an act of revolution in a tutu.

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