

A film review on the expressionist film *Pina*

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A woman behind her own shyness and continuously displays words through dance is sought after as a muse behind Wim Wenders film *Pina*. It's named after the revolutionary dancer who founded the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch ensemble. After her passing, the dance trop dedicated the movie to her. This is a central theme throughout where people lightly express Kubler-Ross' steps and how it personally effected the dance world in the United States and Europe.

It's set in Germany where she lived for most of her life. *Pina* is the Academy Award winner for best documentary film in 2011. Maybe call it different or an act of art instead of commercial filmography, but it didn't need a lot of words to pack a punch. It displayed intimacy on stage. This Indi film developed in Germany shows that people are just people with extraordinary dance talent. Ones that give homage to people that they love. According to the films website the director follows her dance trop in a, "sensual, visually stunning journey of discovery into a new dimension: straight onto the stage." If that's not enough- it's also in 3D. Yes, its high tech for the geeks out there, but it's also for the people who believe art is indeed, everywhere.

It's shot around Germany where people talk directly showing what she saw every day. The simple things. A subway that could have sparked choreography or a taxi that inspired the emotion shock. The actors who played themselves talk directly to the camera discussing, and most of the time dancing their emotions. The actors who are dancers in real life strip themselves emotionally painting a picture of honesty. Thrown together, it makes for a remarkable film.

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When high-tech directing intersects with art, the result can be extraordinary. Pina is a German art film which discusses a woman who left behind an imprint of love on the souls she touched. It is the winner of best documentary at the Academy Awards in 2011 and discussed dance as life. The late choreographer Pina Bausch revolutionized dance by arousing talent dancers didn't know existed within themselves. "We became the paint to color her images" a fellow dancer divulged to the camera crew about the friend he lost, and the genius dance lost. This 3D movie captivates audiences by showing the streets where she walked and the subway where she dreamed. The dancers perform moving performance art across Germany to show that art is indeed everywhere.

The movie teaches its viewers that inspiration is ubiquitous, from the clack of high heels down a tiled floor to the sun hiding behind a single cloud. The movie showcases that true art is honest and dance is no exception. In Pina's opinion, talented dancers are ones who evoke emotion which is more important than a statuesque woman in a pink tutu. While many hire young beautiful dancers, she did not participate in ageism, but used it as a muse. She sought out emotion rather than beauty, stamina to age. Pina used personal power to drive her dream of classic consistent beauty. Instead of using paint, clay, or a camera she used the human form as her medium.

In the movie Pina states, "There are situations of course that leave you speechless. All you can do is hint at things. Words can't do much more than evoke things. That's where dance comes in." This moving documentary intersects the digital age and art to truly captivate a person through dance. A series of dances are broken up by stories and secrets of the dance company at the legendary Tanztheater Wuppertal Theater. The juxtaposition of dance and interviews shows the everyday legend as a simple and humble person who led her life not on the stage catching roses after the performance, but embraced the magic behind the scenes.

Like all legends, the curtains must close, and with her final breath Pina stated, "Dance, dance, or we are lost." This quote captivates her life and changed others perceptions of themselves and others. She truly loved people who were the fire which breathed inspiration. She encouraged her muses to show their souls on stage for the purpose of honesty, art, and humanity.