Moving to Love’s Ups and Downs

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THE ETERNAL DANCE THAT IS LOVE

Ashley Kaylynn Green and Chalane Minsterly, center, with fellow members of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, performing in the premiere of Kyle Abraham’s “Are You in Your Feelings?” at New York City Center. This piece is Abraham's third work for the troupe. REVIEW PAGE 2
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In the choreographer Kyle Abraham's third work for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the dancers find intimacy in songs by Erykah Badu and Jasmine Sullivan.

THE CHOREOGRAPHER KYLE ABRAHAM knows how to make a piece. His third work for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater: "Are You in Your Feelings?" which had its premiere on Friday as part of the company's annual New York City Center season, is in an R&B, soul and hip-hop combination of thoroughly danceable songs about love and relationships.

Abraham describes the show as "uplifting" and "evocative," and it's easy to see why. The music, performed by the company's resident band, is a perfect match for the lyrics of "Are You in Your Feelings?" - a song that features both R&B and soul versions of the same tune, performed by different artists. The result is a show that is both uplifting and soulful, with moments of both humor andPathological emotion.

The dancers perform in ways that are both technically impressive and emotionally moving. They move in unison, creating a sense of unity and connection. The lighting design, by Patina Miller, enhances the mood of each number, with soft, warm colors during the R&B-inspired sections and cooler, more intense hues during the soulful parts.

One of the standout moments is the final number, "I'll Be Back," which features the entire company in a final tableau. The dance is slow and deliberate, with each dancer moving in their own way, but in harmony with the others. The lighting design is particularly striking, with a combination of warm and cool colors creating a beautiful contrast.

Overall, "Are You in Your Feelings?" is a show that is both visually and emotionally engaging. The music, dancing, and lighting all come together to create a powerful and memorable experience.