

The New York Times

THE WEEK AHEAD | DANCE

Movement Extremes

By GIA KOURLAS

Published: November 1, 2013

Too much strength can just about ruin a dance, but this week affords a rare opportunity to experience its power in both formidable and subtle ways when two choreographers, Maria Hassabi and Elizabeth Streb, reveal its nerve and beauty. In “Premiere,” a work for five at the Kitchen, Ms. Hassabi displays her captivation with bodies that move at an unimaginably slow pace. The shakes, the tremors and the sweat — results of such pared-down motion — tell the real story. (Wednesday to Saturday, 512 West 19th Street, Chelsea, 212-255-5793, thekitchen.org.)

At the Streb Lab for Action Mechanics in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, Ms. Streb tests the limits of the human body. “Forces,” a 90-minute work, requires nothing less than brute strength and unflinching courage. Her dancers smash into plexiglass, leap from 25-foot-high platforms and fly while strapped on a spinning girder. For both choreographers, the key is finding strength from within. It’s extreme. (Thursday through Dec. 22, 51 North First Street, 866-811-4111, streb.org.)