Ballet reveals vibrance of Mexico

By DONATA F. MEBANE

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The Ballet Folklorico of Mexico opened last night at Jones Hall offering an appreciative audience an evening of delightful entertainment.

The skillful company of 75 dancers celebrated the history and folklore of Mexico from Aztec civilization through the Revolution to the present times in a sequence of fast moving scenes.

The choreography by Amalia Hernandez was especially outstanding for its remarkable lighting effects and its variety of bright costumes. In one captivating ballet the Revolution was loudly brought to life by a chorus of peasants singing their hope and despair, and in dances by “soldaderas”—the female soldiers who fought side by side with men in the revolution.

The religious sensitivity of Mexico was humorously expressed in a colorful parody of a medieval morality play entitled “Masks of Guerrero” where devils and angels fought and danced side by side in the honor of man.

Easily one of the most fascinating dances of the evening was the wedding dance, an absorbing performance not only for the grace of the dancers but for the spectacular beauty of the costumes; a true phantasmagoria of colors on a vivid white background.

Throughout the entire performance, the gaiety, exuberance, richness and variety of Mexican life and folklore were beautifully and ably portrayed; the ballet is truly a memorable encounter with the Mexican culture.