

Review

What: Burn the Floor

Where: Founders Theatre

When: Monday June 14 and Tuesday June 15.

Reviewed by: Nicola Brennan

Hot, hot, hot is the only way to describe *Burn the Floor* – directed and choreographed by former world champion latin and ballroom dancer Australian Jason Gilkison.

From the opening montage to the final jive, the show is mesmerising and had the audience screaming for more at the opening night of its New Zealand tour. In fact at times it felt more like a male strip revue, given the screams coming from the females in the audience when the shirtless male dancers came on stage.

But *Burn the Floor* is not just for women – the men in the audience also seemed to be enjoying themselves as the gorgeous female dancers swayed to hot latin numbers including the rumba, salsa, samba and of course the ultimate dance of passion, the tango.

Burn the Floor is a breathtaking blend of latin and ballroom dance which shows the versatility of the 16 award-winning dancers and title holders from around the globe – with nearly all of them involved in all of the dances.

It leaves you out of breath just watching – particularly Russian Sacha Farber's upbeat jive. Another show stealer was Venezuela's Karen Hauer, who was last year a competitor on the United States' sixth season of *So You Think You Can Dance*.

The simplistic set design of *Burn the Floor* makes the audience part of the show and you feel as if you are actually in a nightclub somewhere in South America.

Burn the Floor is two hours of amped up dancing and I'd recommend it to anyone with even the slightest appreciation of dance, even if the timing of some of the dancers was a little off.

■ Tickets for tonight's performance available through Ticketek.