



April 2011

Dear Theatre Professional:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Andrea Andresakis.

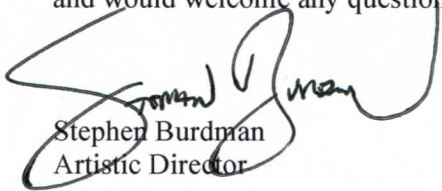
Through the years, Andrea has choreographed in a range of styles from ballet to musical theatre and also spent some time with Pierre Dulaine at the American Ballroom Theatre. Aware of her expertise in social dance, I immediately thought of her when I was looking for a choreographer for *Much Ado About Nothing*, set in 1945, which I directed last season. The piece included a masked ball, a wedding dance integrated with dialogue and a fully choreographed finale. Because of the period, Andrea and I decided on Fox Trot and Swing.

In a very short time, Andrea taught the actors, who had various levels of dance ability, to move across the room as if they had been dancing together for years. A few of the actors who were reticent about participating were won over by her enthusiasm and the clarity with which she demonstrated the choreography. At the same time, the trained dancers were challenged and given intricate footwork and demanding lifts so that they could shine. All of this was done while keeping the clarity of the text and story as a priority.

I found Andrea to be an excellent collaborator, both with the musical director and myself. We worked in the room together some of the time, exchanging ideas freely and sharing authority, while at other times, she worked alone. I was always confident that she would be prepared and that rehearsal time would be used efficiently. Our communication was such that we were always on the same page. Andrea is a self-starter and takes initiative to get things accomplished. For example, she found appropriate period music for the choreography that would also accommodate Shakespeare's words and collaborated with the musical director on the singing.

At this time, we are planning for a production of *The Tempest* in 2013, and I have already offered Andrea the opportunity to work on this production with us—choreographing a modern ballet on a moving carousel in Battery Park.

It is without reservation that I offer the highest recommendation for Andrea Andresakis and would welcome any questions you may have about her.



Stephen Burdman
Artistic Director

Stephen Burdman
Artistic Director

Sean Hagerty
Associate Producer /
Director of Education

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