

To Whom It May Concern:

It's hard to adequately convey the breadth of my enthusiasm for Ben Liebert's assets as a director. He's an artist of rare insight, sensitivity, talent and warmth, and a particularly good collaborator.

Ben and I worked together under very unusual circumstances. I was in rehearsals for a play I was directing, and something came up that required me to be absent from tech rehearsals—an impossible situation. I needed to entrust the process to a co-director who could guide the ship, reassure the cast, and put out any fires that came up in my absence. I chose Ben, having seen his work. And he turned out to be superb in all respects, above and beyond our expectations.

Ben joined us weeks before my absence to get up to speed, and I invited him to share his thoughts. His understanding of text, style, character and pace was shockingly good, and I often implemented his astute suggestions.

But the assignment turned out to be far more challenging and consuming than anticipated. The production hit technical snags when our video projections designer delivered an unusable product.

Ben surprised us with skills we didn't even know he had, lining up cues, re-editing video, creating new video, etc. He was a calm whirlwind, and he knew his stuff, which earned him the respect of the whole team. Throughout, he worked with the cast, adjusted lighting and sound cues, tweaked blocking, dealt with the theatre staff, and most importantly, kept the atmosphere positive and peaceful.

When I returned to rehearsals, I made only minor adjustments, and we continued to collaborate on the various elements of the show. When I say we couldn't have done it without him, I mean it.

Your production would be in the best of hands with Ben at the helm. He's great with actors and production folks alike. He's detailed, creative, and inspired. He'll always be my very first recommendation.

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