

December 1, 2009

Mary Kate Burke
Artistic Director

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Dear DanceBreak Committee-

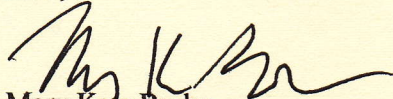
It is with unabashed enthusiasm that I recommend Randy Davis to you. That's right, I just said unabashed enthusiasm. I met Randy a year ago when I was hiring a director/choreographer for a production of *The All Night Strut!* that I was producing at Millbrook Playhouse, the summer stock theatre I am the Artistic Director of in central PA. From the first time I met Randy his strengths were clear: he is an incredibly knowledgeable, a highly trained dancer and choreographer with years of experience who is passionate, committed and exacting.

Strut was Randy's first time directing, and you would never know it. He handled the process with skill but what was most impressive was how he handled the nature of the musical review. He helped the actors infuse each song with a character and story *Pig Foot* was about an affluent white woman who secretly liked to slum it in Harlem on the weekends, *Brother Can you Spare a Dime* was about a destitute immigrant who had high hopes of America that had been dashed. Randy used the ensemble to highlight the disparity between America's promise and the reality for this impoverished immigrant. In many places throughout the piece he deftly used the ensemble to add texture to the piece. His ability to tell a story through character, use of movement and space is a key strength.

Another thing to note about *Strut* is that in true summer stock fashion, you have a preview on day 8 and open on day 10. I was truly impressed with the depth of performance and level of detail Randy was able to accomplish in this time. His ability to achieve a cohesive whole in a limited time is a tremendous skill to have. Randy enters a rehearsal process with a clear vision of what he wants, communicates this to his ensemble and is very skilled at culling compelling performances out of them.

In my directing career I've worked with several Dance Break alumni and I know that Randy will make a wonderful addition to you esteemed Alumni. His piece will be creative, story driven and precise. He will make the most out of all the meetings and exposure that your program provides. He has an impressive body of work as a performer and is committed to continuing a career as a choreographer. I cannot think of a more worth recipient of showcase than Randy. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Best,



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