



22nd December 2004

To whom it may concern

I have had the pleasure of working with Heidi Marshall as both my casting director and entrusted Resident Director on my Broadway production of Puccini's *La Boheme* in San Francisco, New York and most recently Los Angeles.

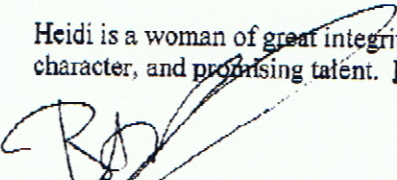
I first noticed Heidi's directing talent when she worked with the actors during our audition process. Her eye for recognizing talent was coupled with the ability to also effectively coach that talent through until final casting. In fact, several times I actually reconsidered actors (and eventually hired them) after Heidi had worked with them on their audition material.

Once the show was cast, I asked Heidi to join me firstly as my Assistant Director and later as Resident Director on *La Boheme*. Heidi worked with me in every phase of production from beginning to end. She worked endlessly on character analysis, prepared intensive period research for the cast members, rehearsed extensively with all 3 casts, directed every understudy to performance level, hired replacement casts, managed some difficult actor personalities, and in essence became my right hand. Heidi was *crucial* to the building and success of the production.

With the utmost confidence, I entrusted Heidi to initially prepare and rehearse a mostly new cast of around 55 people for the restaging of *La Boheme* at the Ahmanson Theater in Los Angeles earlier this year. She remounted the show with very careful attention to the premise and detail which we had established in the Broadway production. I was inspired to see, when I joined the production in the final stages of rehearsal, the care and intensity that had been maintained in the move to Los Angeles.

All of Heidi Marshall's work has led me to see that she is a director of first rate talent and ability. To my delight, Heidi has continued to dedicate her full focus and attention to her this profession.

Heidi is a woman of great integrity, clarity of thought, calmness of presence, strength of character, and promising talent. I look forward to watching her growth as a director.


Baz Luhrmann

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