



February 12, 2016

To Whom it May Concern,

I am pleased to commend one of my favorite collaborators, Rick Benjamin, as an extraordinarily able conductor.

I have been privileged to work with Rick since 1999 when he and the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra performed the score for my dance, *Oh, You Kid!* As hard as it is to conduct concert music, it is even more difficult to conduct for dance, as the conductor must be completely attuned to the needs of the dancers. They must be able to focus simultaneously on the dancers on stage and the musicians in the pit. Rick is one of the best in my experience, which dates back to the 1950s. He is incredibly focused yet easy to work with.

I strongly suggest that you engage him immediately!

Sincerely


Paul Taylor
Artistic Director