

Jo Rowan *****
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April 23, 2006

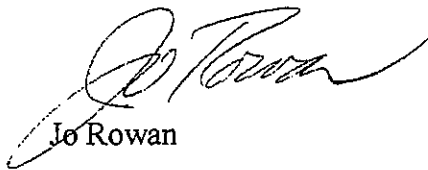
To Whom It May Concern:

I was introduced to Cy Young's theatrical presentation *Crusade* in the fall of 2000. I immediately felt that the work would make an artistic and financially successful production. It is set in a time with concerns much like the present, a time of religious wars and cultural misunderstandings. This work compresses 200 years of history (11th to the 13th centuries) into a 3 hour epic musical drama that culminates in the savagery of the Children's Crusade.

It is a poignant look-back at some of the root causes that pervert human reason, allowing ambition and the miscalculation of motives to corrupt good intentions. The ominous character of Death waits with malevolent patience while loving parents, conniving monks and innocent children are swept up in the madness that leads the children to march off to be sold into slavery.

I was caught by the beauty of the haunting melodies and the theatricality of the script. The historical setting and it's connection to our present situation will catch the audience with a pertinence that makes the story feel fresh and meaningful. The show pulsates with the dynamic contrasts of good and evil, love and violence, peace and combat, spirituality and corruption. The powerful score blends Turkish themes with contemporary theater music and the lyrics capture the ache and longing of love lost and opportunities missed.

Sincerely,


 Jo Rowan

JO ROWAN

Professor of Dance & Dance Department Chairman
Oklahoma City University
Director, The American Spirit Dance Company

Jo Rowan, nationally known ballet dancer and dance teacher, is professor of dance and chairman of the dance department at Oklahoma City University and founder and director of The American Spirit Dance Company, a 160 member company of Broadway-bound singer-dancer-entertainers. The American Spirit Dance Company has performed with entertainers such as Dinah Shore, Pearl Bailey, Marie Osmond and the Osmond Brothers, Vic Damone, and on international tours to Malaysia and Taiwan.

Ms. Rowan, a member of Actors Equity, has appeared professionally in over sixty musical comedies as a dancer, actress, singer, and comedienne. Musicals in which she has appeared include *My Fair Lady*, *Oklahoma!*, *Kismet*, *West Side Story*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Sweet Charity*, *Funny Girl*, *George M*, *Brigadoon*, *Oliver!*, *The Desert Song*, *Can Can*, *Boys from Syracuse*, *Of Thee I Sing*, *Sugar Babies* and *Peter Pan*. She co-starred in Lyric Theatre's production of the musical *Grand Hotel* as the ballerina, a role which earlier launched the American career of Greta Garbo.

She was a regular performer on the PBS weekly television program *Consumer Survival Kit* and has appeared in television commercials. Ms. Rowan was a featured subject on *PM Magazine* and has appeared in a film, *Oil History in Oklahoma*, for use in Oklahoma public schools. Ms. Rowan has also appeared in commercials for Technica TV, American Appliance Stores, Crocketts Bar-B-Q, and Furr's Cafeterias and Sprite, among others.

Ms. Rowan is a frequent lecturer on the history of ballet and American dance and has written and narrated *American Dance Styles* and *Seventy Years of American Dance* for television.

Ms. Rowan, former ballet mistress of the Dallas Ballet, has performed as ballet soloist with many of the nation's leading opera companies including the Metropolitan Opera, the Philadelphia Opera, the Dallas Civic Opera, the Cincinnati Summer Opera, and the Tulsa Civic Opera.

She appeared with Odetta in the Kansas City Performing Arts Foundation production of "Long Hair, Short Hair", and has been a ballet soloist and guest artist with the Kansas City Philharmonic and the Baltimore and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestras.

Ms. Rowan was also the producer of the popular children's show, *The Buzzy, Bear, and Budgy Show*, which toured the East Coast. She was also a regular performer in schools for Young Audiences of Maryland, Inc., in Baltimore.

As a choreographer, Ms. Rowan has created numerous ballets of various lengths and has staged dance sequences for professional productions of *Kismet* and *Threepenny Opera*. Her choreography for the award-winning opera *Medea* received critical acclaim. She also choreographed for productions of *Carmen*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *The Tales of Hoffman*. She has choreographed for PBS television programs and is known in many communities for her extraordinary ability and unorthodox methods of staging *The Nutcracker* ballet. She also provided original choreography for the Wichita Music Theatre's production of the 1930's musical, *Babes in Arms*. Other musicals for which she has provided choreography are *On Your Toes*, *Bye Bye, Birdie*, *West Side Story*, *The Desert Song*, *Oklahoma!*, *On Your Toes*, *The Most Happy Fella*, and *On the Town*.



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April 16, 2006

To Whom it may concern,

I have known Cy Zeman for many years and am knowledgeable of his talent (his singing, his acting and most importantly his writing). He has an amazing understanding of writing for the theater. There is no waste of lyrics or music. The lyrics are literary and are furthering of plot line. His music is not only beautiful but well crafted and indeed theatrical. I find the "Comade" an exciting project and am immensely creative acting and dance project. The score is extremely inventive and has its own distinct individuality. If you need to ask questions please feel free to call me at 212 877 2908

Most Sincerely

Jack Lee

Music Director & Vocal Coach

Drama Dept "Tisch"

Revue Conducter

"Sweet Charity" orig

"Juno"

"Peter Pan" Longy Opera

"My one & only"

Grand Hotel

etc.

April 16, 2006

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Most sincerely,

Jack Lee

Music Director & Vocal Coach

Drama Dept. "Tisch"

Broadway Conductor:

"Sweet Charity" (Original)

"Irene"

"Peter Pan" (Sandy Dennis)

"My One & Only"

"Grand Hotel"

etc.



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JACK LEE

Jack Lee is one of the most respected musical directors in the theatre. His career has embraced conducting numerous Broadway shows, and national and international tours.

Originally from Cleveland, he performed, as an actor in musicals at that city's famous Cain Park Theatre. He worked at Kansas City's Starlight Theatre as an assistant conductor and then conducted at Dallas Music Hall's summer musicals and for John Kenley's circuit of theatres in Warren, Columbus, and Dayton, Ohio.

His first Broadway conducting assignment was KICKS & CO., a musical by Oscar Brown Jr. starring Burgess Meredith. Next came FRANK MERRIWELL then GEORGE M with Joel Grey, APPLAUSE, with Lauren Bacall, SWEET CHARITY with Gwen Verdon, followed by a tour of the show with Chita Rivera, FUNNY GIRL with Marilyn Michaels and Lillian Roth, Richard Rodgers' NO STRINGS with Howard Keel and Barbara McNair, FIG LEAVES ARE FALLING with Barry Nelson and Dorothy Loudon, IRENE with Debbie Reynolds that led into a West Coast revival of ANNIE GET YOUR GUN, directed by Gower Champion and starring Debbie Reynolds, KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY with Burt Lancaster, a tour and Broadway run of PETER PAN starring Sandy Duncan, NICK & NORA with Barry Bostwick, Joanna Gleason and Christine Beranski, MY ONE AND ONLY on Broadway, on tour and the in Far East with Tommy Tune and Twiggy, and later with Sandy Duncan and Stephanie Zimbalist.

He continued his association with Tommy Tune on Broadway and on tour with GRAND HOTEL, by Robert Wright and George Forrest. His association with Sandy Duncan continued with productions of I DO! I DO!, THE APPLE TREE, and SOUTH PACIFIC. Between a Broadway revival of MY FAIR LADY starring Richard Chamberlain and a tour of the show in Europe playing SRO engagements in Berlin, Munich, Paris, and other