

July 27, 2010

To Whom it May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write to you about the work of Clubbed Thumb. I have been deeply impressed by the work Clubbed Thumb has produced and by its support of theater artists.

Clubbed Thumb is widely recognized for giving career boosts to daring but not-yet-known playwrights, and producing their provocative work with the utmost thoughtfulness and care. I feel fortunate to have worked with them on two premieres of plays of mine -- *Design Your Kitchen* in 2003 and *Dot* in 2010. I have also participated as a writer in their Boot Camp program and I have had the opportunity to write several short plays for festivals and parties that they have created and hosted.

The team composed of Maria Striar and Diana Konopka is extremely experienced. Summerworks -- the festival of new work produced each year by Clubbed Thumb -- has a stellar reputation among artists and audiences. Each Summerworks show I have attended has been packed with enthusiastic audience members: eager students, known master artists, and everyone in between. The atmosphere fostered by Ms. Striar and Ms. Konopka allows for the creation of rich creative work.

The plays chosen by Ms. Striar have the quality of being unusual in structure and tone. While often very humorous, they reveal uncomfortable truths. In other words, Clubbed Thumb is a beacon for writers like me, whose career depends on producers taking a chance.

In sum, Clubbed Thumb performs a kind of magic for the New York City theater community, introducing audiences to new voices and new ways of seeing the world. The company gives many wonderful artists the opportunity to work in a respectful and nurturing environment. It has been my pleasure to write this letter on behalf of the company, and I would be happy to talk more about Clubbed Thumb at any time. I respectfully urge you to support the work of this institution.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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