

10/14/19



To Whom It May Concern,

I am Summer Belnap Robertson, former Artistic Director of the St. George Dance Co. and Founder/Director of the Red Rock Dance Festival. I write this letter on behalf of Rebekah Wainwright, principal dancer with the St. George Dance Company since 2008 (11 years). I have worked closely with Rebekah in the dance field in southern Utah and am honored to recommend her.

Rebekah is extremely active in our field. Her composition and choreography have been premiered at the Red Rock Dance Festival Choreography Showcase multiple times since its inception in 2007. Most recently, she presented in 2016 (Awakening Dream), 2017 (The Erlkonig) and 2018 (Beggar's Pose). Each time, she received positive feedback and reviews for her work, and they were among the crowd favorites.

Rebekah is an artist in the truest form of the word. She understands the creative process, pushes herself to think outside the box and develops movement and concepts that are unique to her. I have worked directly with Rebekah as she creates work, and I've observed her procedure. She holds a music degree, and music is clearly an integral part of her process and a starting point for her creations. She also uses the tool of improvisation masterfully. I have watched her move freely until she comes across a phrase of movement that is right. She weaves together movement that represents her theme and music. In 2017, she designed an unforgettable piece entitled "Beggar's Pose". The piece was danced to her husband's voice reading a poem that he wrote. It was an intimate and beautiful sight to behold.

Rebekah has also been commissioned three times by the St. George Dance Company to create works specifically for our collaborations with the Southwest Symphony. In 2017, Rebekah choreographed and produced "March of the Trolls" to live music with a full orchestra. One highlight was the handmade masks each dancer wore that Rebekah created herself. It is important to note that she is also a skilled costume designer. That ability adds a whole other element to her creative process.

In addition to choreography and performing, Rebekah is a skilled teacher who pays attention to detail and is engaged with her students. In addition to teaching an occasional class for St. George Dance Company adults, she also holds a full-time dance faculty position at the Vista School for the Performing Arts. I consider her students fortunate to have a teacher with such high expectations of them. These expectations are evident in the works she has created for them that have taken 1st place at the Utah Shakespearean Festival for two years in a row (2018 Hamlet and 2019 Othello).

Not only does Rebekah have a depth of choreographic experience, but she is one of the most energetic, persistent, reliable and passionate people I have ever met. I choose to work with her because of these attributes, and I am always confident that what she produces will be of the highest quality. She simply will not settle for anything less.

Rebekah is a stellar choreographer, educator and performer and I would recommend her on all fronts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Summer Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Summer Belnap Robertson
Former Artistic Director, St. George Dance Company
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