

November 3, 1987

To Whom It May Concern,

The Synergic Theatre, under the direction of Suzanne and David Manning, first performed in the Schimmel Center for the Arts in the summer of 1984, when they presented an evening-long shadowscreen work titled "Lost". At that time, I was Assistant to the Director of the Schimmel Center. The entire staff of the theatre was fascinated with their production -- their methods and highly professional approach to a very complex medium, as well as the inherent wonder and beauty of the performance itself.

That first encounter has led to a growing relationship: The Mannings now regularly present their Synergic Theatre Workshop at Pace University (I was a participant in the summer of 1987), use university facilities to rehearse and perform, and Suzanne is an adjunct Associate Professor in the university's Department of Theatre and Fine Arts.

Meanwhile, I have now taken the position of Director of the Schimmel Center for the Arts. In that capacity, I am looking forward to participating in the development and presentation of "Found" -- a new major shadowscreen work based on Columbus' discovery of America -- which I hope will be created and premiered in the Schimmel Center. Our theatre is not only the only major, full-size proscenium house in lower Manhattan, but it is also particularly well-suited to shadowscreen productions (with an extra-deep well for placing rear-projection lighting.)

One of New York City's major barriers in developing the kind of exciting, innovative theatre that the Mannings create is access to theatre facilities, which are limited, in high demand and prohibitively expensive. It is my hope that this endorsement of our interest in helping to provide these facilities will encourage other potential sponsors to realize the full potential of this very exciting project.

Sincerely,



Dawn Knipe
Director
Schimmel Center for the Arts

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