

Aaron Gandy

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Re: Michael Ponella

Hello,

This letter serves as a whole-hearted recommendation of trumpeter Michael Ponella.

I've had the pleasure of working with Mike at New Jersey's Papermill Playhouse on two separate projects. I met Mike in 2014 when we performed together in the orchestra for CAN CAN. We played together again 2016 in WEST SIDE STORY. For both productions, I served as Associate Music Director. On both projects, the reasons why Mike enjoys a reputation as one of the tri-state's leading trumpeters was evident to all. His keen, precise and disciplined performance was remarkable. His deep experience in playing in musical ensembles of all stripes was a benefit to the entire production. His leadership and know-how insured that the entire orchestra played at the highest level possible. Best of all, Mike's demeanor and communication skills made him a pleasure to work with.

in 2018, I needed to hire musicians for a gala concert on Long Island. One of my first calls was to Mike, and happily he was available. Once again, he brought a wealth of experience and nuance to the entire concert, elevating the entire artistic endeavor.

Any conductor, music director or contractor would be hard pressed to find a finer professional musician than Mike Ponella. If any additional information is needed, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

