

# GELSEY KIRKLAND ACADEMY OF CLASSICAL BALLET

May 13, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Artistic Director, I am honored to write this letter of recommendation. I am qualified to write this letter based on my past interaction with Ms. Karina Elver, as well as my own professional experiences gained thorough an international career as a principal dancer in both the United States and Europe. In addition, I have taught at the foremost ballet companies all over the world. Based on these credentials, I can fairly and accurately judge the talent and potential of professional dancers and instructors.

I have known Ms. Elver since 2010 after inviting her to teach for our summer program. After her exceptional work over the summer and the importance of the Bournonville technique in the curriculum, I can attest to her great professionalism, remarkable moral character, and expert skill as a dancer. She is an exquisite and refined dancer who has a passion for ballet and the Bournonville technique.

In January of 2011, I invited Ms. Elver to be the lead teacher of our Bournonville technique in our Professional Full-Day Program at my Academy located at 355 Broadway 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York NY 10012. Karina's her rare qualities of technical mastery, grace, and elegance makes her capable of teaching ballet and Bournonville to all levels of students. It is essential that Karina returns to my Academy so my students can continue to grow in the Bournonville technique.

I believe her exceptional talent in dance and strong moral character is of great benefit to the American ballet community, as well as the community at large. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Gelsey Kirkland

Co-Artistic Director

Gelsey Kirkland Academy of Classical Ballet

