

**Letter of Support from  
MARCO RAMIREZ  
Playwright, Screenwriter, Producer**

Send inquiries to:  
United Talent Agency  
888 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, 7 floor  
New York, NY 10106

To Whom It May Concern,

I currently work and live in Los Angeles, but I was born and raised in Miami, Florida. (To be more specific, in Hialeah.) For the last ten years, I've been supporting myself not only as a television writer and producer, but also as a playwright.

And my love for the theatre was born at GableStage.

I was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. A shy, bookish kid in the Miami Dade public school system.

Yes, I had seen a what one could call “theatrical” performances before. I recall seeing a Christmas play at the Catholic church my parents attended. I recall seeing a Disney musical at a large performing arts venue of some kind. But it was the **intimate, emotionally stirring performance** I saw at GableStage (their 1999 adaptation of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*) that spawned my love for theatre.

Not for big, traveling Broadway shows. Not for massive sets and parades of costumes.

But for a **smaller, smarter kind of theatre**. The kind where a cast of six actors (or less) delves into ethical issues, historical events (GableStage's 2002 production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*), race relations (their 2004 *Master Harold and the Boys*), or the nature of human sexuality (their 2003 production of Edward Albee's *The Goat*).

It may seem like a larger space (700 vs. 300 seats) simply means more room for patrons, but from a practical perspective, what ends up happening in these larger spaces is an entirely different kind of theatre. In the world of film, it's the difference between an arthouse cinema and a megaplex movie theatre at the mall. The level of sophistication in the work, the level of risk one is allowed to take when programming, is minimized once one has to worry about filling a space over twice the size.

And so I write this letter to support Joe Adler and GableStage's vision for a smaller venue. One where smaller stories can continue to thrive.

The movies are getting bigger. Television is getting bigger. Even sports are getting bigger, every year. But to me – there's nothing quite like settling into an evening of intense theatre. The kind that demands your attention. The kind that doesn't just have the power to dazzle you, but that – ultimately – has the power to **move** you.

Sincerely,

  
Marco Ramirez