

## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DRILLING COMPANY

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a great pleasure to recommend The Drilling Company for the Creative Opportunity Fund administered by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

I have known The Drilling Company and Hamilton Clancy as an astute producer and brilliant director since he first produced my short play *Inheritance* in 2007. I was fortunate enough to work with the Company on three more of my short plays and a wildly successful full-length production of my play *Reservoir* which Daniel M. Gold of *The New York Times* lauded as “a timely urgent reimagining” of Georg Büchner’s play, *Woyzeck*. The review went on to further praise Hamilton Clancy as a director: “On a Spartan set with only one prop of note, the director, Hamilton Clancy, paces the scenes briskly, deepening the sense of crisis. In the end, perhaps the best lesson from ‘Reservoir’ is how to draw new meaning from a classic.” *Reservoir* ran at the 78<sup>th</sup> Street Play Lab to sold-out houses and was subsequently extended twice.

In discussing and working through works-in-progress, Hamilton Clancy brings his tremendous insights, curiosity, and generosity of spirit to every project. I am thrilled at the prospect of future work together, secure in the knowledge that the collection of artists brought together as The Drilling Company will inspire my creative endeavors while holding my writing to the highest standard of rigor.

I can say, without a doubt, that I would not be the writer I am today without the artistic support of The Drilling Company. I am proud that our long-standing collaboration has helped me grow as a writer and thinker, bringing me into contact with artistic talent that has stretched my knowledge of the contemporary world from a humanistic and societal perspective, and has additionally broadened my understanding of the creative possibilities that can flourish in a theatrical setting.

I can lend my unqualified support and wholehearted recommendation to The Drilling Company in their grant application.

Sincerely,

Eric Henry Sanders  
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