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February 25, 1999

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It is my pleasure to introduce and recommend Ms. **Halyna Wolanska**. I have known Ms. Wolanska since 1991 when she became a student at the McGill Conservatory. I have followed her development as a musician closely and there is no question in my mind that she has the talent, artistry and intelligence to become a first-class singer. I will list in point form the qualities that she possesses that qualify her, I believe, for a career as a performing artist.

— An excellent soprano voice with a unique tonal colour and flexibility. Ms. Wolanska has made remarkable progress in an unusually short time under her Conservatory instructor, Ms. Hasmig Inejikian. She has placed highest in her level on voice examinations.

— She has been an outstanding student in Theory and Ear Training, placing highest in the Conservatory in overall results for her level.

— She is a musical and highly expressive performer with an enviable control of languages and diction.

— She has the need to communicate her music with her audience. After talent and musicality this is the most important thing for a creative artist to possess.

— She has impressive stage presence and comes across as a warm, sincere individual.

— She is an ambitious person and believes in herself.

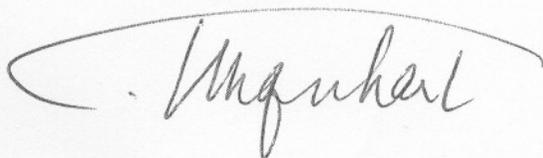
— She has demonstrated both in her musical studies and other aspects of her life the ability to follow projects to the end and excel.

I wish to point out that I am basing these remarks on considerable experience as both a musician and a listener. Over a 10-year period I worked as a music critic at The Montreal Star, The Gazette, the Montreal Daily news and I am currently Montreal correspondent for Opera Canada Magazine. I have reviewed vocal performances in North American and Europe and have been a member of the Music Critics Association of North America.

That being said, I would like to emphasize that there are very few developing musicians whom I could recommend as highly. It is indeed rare to be able to point with certainty at such a person in the belief that she will realize her goals on an international level. I firmly believe that in the long term she will be a credit to both her art and her country.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, enclosed within a large, thin oval. The signature appears to read "Urquhart".

Carl Urquhart
Associate Director