

ANDREA ANDRESAKIS  
DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER, SDC  
WWW.ANDRESAKIS.COM

**SELECTED QUOTES**

“After seeing Ms. Andresakis’ production, I told her how impressed I was with her work. I’ve seen many productions (some with enormous budgets and visibility) fall into the deadly trap of playing the show for laughs. It was clear that Ms. Andresakis had encouraged the actors to create earnest and believable characters. I got the impression the artistic team was encouraged to bring original ideas to the process, which isn’t always easy with such a well known show. The results of their efforts resulted in a fresh take on the story while keeping the original intentions of the authors intact.” (Edie Cowan, director/choreographer)

“Characters and story came alive under Andrea’s creative direction, choreography and scene development. I found Andrea to be hard working, thoughtful and ethical.” (Ruth Anne Ring, Board of Directors Troupers Light Opera)

“Andrea proved herself to be an invaluable collaborator from the first day of auditions. Her task was challenging, as she was working with dancers of varying degrees of expertise, from Broadway “hoofers” to world champion ballroom dancers. One of her great strengths is quickly identifying performers’ strengths and weaknesses. The dance numbers were crafted so that the arc was thoughtfully developed.” (Jeff Meredith, Artistic Director Virginia Musical Theatre)

“Ms. Andresakis’ creation of a universal conflict gave meaning and freedom to a diverse script. She provided a cohesiveness and realistic approach to character relationships, which brought clarity to each character’s emotional turmoil. These character creations are a direct result of Ms. Andresakis’ direction and ability to challenge her actors to present character portrayals that are fully developed. (Tamiko Washington, Artistic Director OC-Centric New Play Festival)

“She came to EMU with stellar recommendations from previous collaborators and graced our department and students with her insights, creativity and high standards. Andrea was able to communicate her vision for the production and work successfully in realizing it. One of Andrea's strengths lies in her commitment to theatre as a collaborative and life-changing art.” (Heidi Winters Vogel, Theatre Chair Eastern Mennonite University)

“She gained my trust by consulting with me regularly throughout the rehearsal process. She went to extreme lengths to find music that appropriately reflected the tone of the story. Her directorial choices revealed a balance of seriousness and playfulness and kept the play from becoming too morose or too saccharine. It was among the most rewarding playwright/director alliances I’ve encountered.” (Melanie Greenhouse, playwright)

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**SELECTED QUOTES, continued**

“What struck me most about her choreography was that it furthered the dramatic action of the preceding scene. Her work illuminated my direction and more than once I changed my approach to the text in response to her insight. She has a very keen eye for storytelling and a deft hand with stage picture.” (Chris Clavelli, Associate Artistic Director Florida Rep)

“In a very short time Andrea taught the actors, who had various levels of dance ability, to move across the room as if they had been dancing together for years. Any reticence was won over by her enthusiasm and the clarity with which she demonstrated the choreography. All of this was done while keeping the clarity of the text and story as a priority.” (Stephen Burdman, Artistic Director NY Classical Theatre)

Andrea has a vast experience in theatre and dance and shares that with her co-workers. She is punctual and reliable, is prompt with administrative duties, and her insights on the world of dance have contributed to our organization’s culture. She is friendly and polite with staff and performers and has been integral to our success this year.” (Courtland Weaver, Associate Artistic Director Alaska Dance Theatre)

“Ms. Andresakis directed two of my plays *Lucy’s Waltz* and *Stragglers*. Among the qualities I value in her as a director are her ability to work well with actors in a constructive and positive way, her respect for my rights as a playwright, and her willingness to invite me to attend auditions and rehearsals and to incorporate my comments into her rehearsals.” (Frances Galton, Artistic Director American Playwrights Theatre)

“I appreciated her calm demeanor and ability to apply herself as musician, communicator, technician, administrator, mentor and friend to the company and staff, as needed. Her collaborative spirit was wonderful. Her background as a performer is a plus and was instrumental in her ability to work and communicate with actors.” (Gary John La Rosa, director/choreographer)