

Los Angeles, February 8th 2016

To Whom it May Concern,

I have more than three decades of experience in the film industry. I started producing the "Star Trek" movies with the original cast for Paramount Studios. Since then, I have produced numerous successful films such as the first four "X-Men" films, directed by Bryan Singer, "Fantastic Four", "The Giver" and "Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny". I am a member of the Directors Guild of America and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

I had the pleasure of working with Yaël Belicha in the production of "The Promise", a feature film written and directed by Academy Award Winner Terry George, starring Christian Bale, Oscar Isaac and Charlotte LeBon. The film is produced by Mike Medavoy, Eric Esrailian and myself. I am therefore in a privileged position to confirm Yaël Belicha's extraordinary ability as a children's coach.

"The Promise" is one of the most challenging films I have produced. It is a period piece set against World War I, filmed in Spain during the winter with a tight schedule. One of the most difficult aspects of the production was casting and training 34 children with a very specific look and specifically a little girl who played a crucial leading role in some of the most emotional scenes. To achieve that, we needed someone with the skills of a Casting Director, an Acting Coach and a Director. Luckily we found Yaël Belicha. Her credits were impressive (she was a coach for young actors in films like "Open Windows" or "A night in Old Mexico" and she was renowned in the Spanish industry thanks to her work in many television shows: "The Protected", developed by ABC Family, "Avatars" for Disney and "Apaches"). Her references were amazing, but I have to say I was impressed by what she accomplished in such a little amount of time.

Yaël worked alongside our Casting Director, our production team and our director Terry, to make sure his vision was being fulfilled. She managed to work with all the departments to find the right kids (34 of them) and she discovered Milene Mayer, a unique 10-year-old actress who became a gem in the film. Yaël worked with her and with all the other kids like a mother and a teacher. She was able to make them feel as if they were playing and enhanced their performances in a way that was extraordinary.

One of the most wonderful things about producing films is that you get to work with extremely talented people and you only hope you'll continue collaborating with them in the future. Yaël is one of these remarkable professionals.

Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information regarding Yaël Belicha's skills.

Sincerely,

  
Ralph Winter  
Producer

Ralph.Winter@gmail.com