

## Sample Letters/Quotes received from Clients and Press

### Michael Cavanaugh is...

**“Amazing”**

*The New York Times*

**“Brilliant”**

*Variety Magazine*

**“Phenomenal”**

*Chicago Sun Times*

**“Terrific”**

*O, The Oprah Magazine*

**“Sensational”**

*The Denver Post*



## **Movin' Out Press**

### **Ben Brantley, The New York Times**

"When the amazing Mr. Cavanaugh finally gets his deserved moment in the spotlight with the encore, "New York State of Mind,".... the theatergoers start wriggling happily like the crowds at "Mamma Mia!"

### **Mathew Murray, TalkingBroadway.com**

"It's then that the show's most important single performer comes to the forefront Michael Cavanaugh is the lead piano player and singer in the band perched on a floating platform high above the stage, and he plays and sings all of the shows songs almost non-stop. Cavanaugh stands out as a great singer, with an energetic personality and an apparently bottomless well of vocal stamina. He may occasionally turn out front to observe the events onstage or direct a lyric or emotion at the audience, but it's never necessary - his enthusiasm is infectious, and the fun he's having makes the show as a whole much more entertaining.

Tharp's work is best when it integrates most solidly with the music and Cavanaugh's soulful performance. The dancers reflect this, only really coming alive late in the show, though none really competes with Cavanaugh who remains the real star throughout. "

### **Susan Reiter, Dance Review Times**

"Also still in place is the crucial contribution of the amazing Michael Cavanaugh, whose singing and piano playing of the score's Billy Joel songs remain as infectious and fervent as ever."

### **David Finkle, Theater Mania**

"There are moments when [Cavanaugh's] skill and enthusiasm steal focus from the mesmerizing activity taking place below him."

## **Symphony/Public event press**

### **Lora Unger, Jacksonville Symphony, 2008**

"Michael's show is hands down the best contemporary symphony pops show we have had the honor to present. The combination of popular songs, his talent as a superb showman and the excellent charts make this a must-have for both the Orchestra and the audience. Book him now."

### **Jenna Tesse Fox, Feinstein's performance review by Broadway World 2008.**

"And as fun and enjoyable as the concert was, it was also somewhat poignant. For decades, jazz artists such as Michael Buble' and many others have freely interpreted the standards of their genre, each singer putting his or her unique stamp on each song. But rock songs generally remain bound to their originator, and reinterpretations are not often appreciated as an art form. It is quite exciting, then, to see a vibrant young artist put his own spin on some classic rock songs that are an important piece of contemporary American culture. These numbers have earned their place in our national songbook, and they deserve strong singers like Michael Cavanaugh to breathe new life into them and keep them alive for another generation to enjoy"

### **ELAINE SCHMIDT, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel**

"Cavanaugh sings in a high, almost boyish tenor. His sound is reminiscent of Joel's early recordings, and his interpretations of Joel's tunes, both vocally and at the keyboard, are part homage and part his own take. He brings tremendous energy to every moment he spends on stage."

**JEFF MIERS, News Pop Music Critic, The Buffalo News (2008 Buffalo Philharmonic show)**

"Then came something truly beautiful, a wonderful fusion of pop and orchestral music serving Joel's transcendent ballad, "She's Got a Way," quite well. The arrangement — which consisted of Cavanaugh's piano and vocal with support from the strings, and then unfolded into strings and brass — gave sublime support to Cavanaugh's spot-on vocal. This was truly the evening's high point. Cavanaugh's tenor echoed Joel's, but he sang the song passionately, as if it was his own."

**Jeff Kaczmarczyk, The Grand Rapids Press (2009 Grand Rapids Show)**

"Cavanaugh is no impersonator, but the similarities between their (Billy Joel's & Cavanaugh's) styles are not to be missed. The Cleveland native doesn't have the brassy Bronx edge to his voice that Joel does. His tone is sweeter. But Cavanaugh's vocal range is identical, his inflection in songs like "Keeping the Faith" is spot-on, and his piano licks from tunes such as "New York State of Mind" are faithful recreations."

"Cavanaugh weighed in with one of his original songs, "Give It Time." That album, "In Color," included Cavanaugh's recorded version of Joel's "She's Got a Way," an arrangement featuring orchestra that lies somewhere between George Martin's orchestral backgrounds with The Beatles and Phil Spector's famous "Wall of Sound"."

**Jane Vranish, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (2008 Pittsburgh Symphony Show)**

"Veteran stage performer Michael Cavanaugh, the Tony-nominated keyboardist who floated above the stage in the hit Broadway musical "Movin' Out" easily held a place front and center, with his own confident and energetic combo of five stretched along the front"

**Chris Shull, Fort Worth Star-Telegram (2009 Fort Worth Symphony Show)**

"Joel's music got a good hearing; with Cavanaugh, the piano man's library is in good hands."

## **CORPORATE FEEDBACK**

"Michael Cavanaugh was as good as we have ever had and we have had some great entertainment-Tony Bennett, Beach Boys, Lou Rawls. Everyone was blown away that night. We will book him again. Why? Because I have a fever and the only thing that can cure it is MORE COW BELL! Michael, God bless you. Thanks for taking our gig so far away from home and your busy schedule. You are truly an amazing talent. The world is a much better place with you in it and...what a band!"

**Thrivent Financial  
Jamaica 2006**

I have heard nothing but FABULOUS reviews from absolutely everyone about Michael and I LOVED him too! We accomplished exactly what we set out to do and that was to have everyone arrive on time because they wanted to see him.

I was amazed at the turnout! Trust me; that NEVER happens, and is really a great reflection of how enthusiastic our guests were that Michael was there.

Thank you for everything!!!

**Sincerely,  
Melissa Leonesio  
Phoenix Suns – Suns and Stars 2006**

I just wanted to say that you guys are so great to work with. Thanks so much for making things so easy. Michael's performance was awesome. I heard nothing but compliments from the end clients and their people. Everyone was talking about the show the next day, and we will definitely repeat down the line.

**Cheers –Barry Weisblatt  
Barons Capital, NY.**

I saw you for the first time last Sunday at Nemaocolin Resort in western Pennsylvania. It was the Carefirst of Maryland Corporate party for top producers. I want you to know how much I enjoyed your talent. I have seen, in person, Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles and many more but have to say that I rank your talent extremely high on the list of my favorite performers. The combination of your musical talent along with your rapport with the audience takes a back seat to none. Keep up the good work and I wish you the very best in the future.

**Ed Gerace - Baltimore  
Carefirst**

Helluva show last night. Thank you again and again for making me look like a star every time I book you. It is always a pleasure working with you and I look forward to the next one. Anyway, thanks again. The client already told me they want you back. Speak to you soon.

**Adam Kahan  
Empire Entertainment. NYC**

I wanted to drop you and the band a thank you for making the MEA Awards a most pleasurable experience. I truly enjoyed working together with you and your team on the preproduction and the event. I have never seen a band able to have everyone in the audience on their feet dancing. Michael and his band's performance were superb! Please extend my warmest appreciation to all the band members for their hard work and wonderful talent. I am hopeful that we will have the opportunity to work together in the future. Thank you again and I truly enjoyed working with all of you! Best of luck to all of you!

**Tina Marie Warren  
The Marketing Excellence Awards 2006**

Our Aetna clients and their guests were very pleased with the Cavanaugh & Friends" performance in Puerto Rico....confirmed by the six (6) standing ovations they received. Michael is the consummate performer and such a personable gentleman. Our clients were so impressed at quality of all of the artists and how they were also such nice people. Our clients simply could not be happier. I believe we achieved our goal of "knocking their socks off". We look forward to working with you again.

**Patrick  
Blade Agency  
Aetna Puerto Rico**