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Fortinbras

June/July 1994



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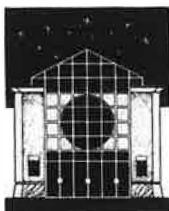
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**34th Season, No. 2**  
**June/July, 1994**

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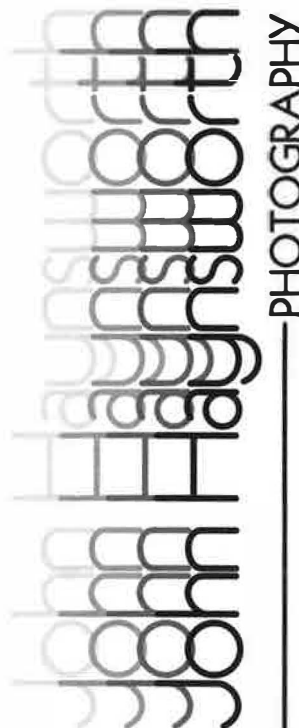
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## THEATRE THREE

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present

# Fortinbras

by  
LEE BLESSING

Directed by  
JAC ALDER

Featuring:  
Mark Hadley, Dennis Millegan, Jonathan Brent,  
Tabitha Woods, Dennis Maher, Cecilia Flores, Terry Vandivort,  
Terry Dobson, Michael David, Frank Cortese,  
Deborah Sammons, Ellen Locy, Steve Westerheide, Lem White

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# Fortinbras

by Lee Blessing

## THE CHARACTERS

### Living

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.....	*Jonathan Brent
Osric, member of the Danish court.....	*Terry Dobson
Horatio, friend of Hamlet.....	Dennis Millegan
English Ambassador.....	*Terry Vandivort
Fortinbras, Prince of Norway.....	*Mark Hadley
Captain of the Norwegian Army.....	Frank Cortese
Marcellus, a sentinel.....	Steve Westerheide
Bernardo, a sentinel.....	Lem White
First Maiden.....	Deborah Sammons
Second Maiden.....	Ellen Locy

### Other

Polonius, the Court Councillor.....	*Terry Vandivort
Ophelia, his daughter.....	Tabitha Woods
Claudius, King of Denmark.....	*Dennis Maher
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark.....	*Cecilia Flores
Laertes, Polonius's son.....	Michael David

\*Member, AEA

Theatre Three operates under an agreement with the Actor's Equity Association (AEA), the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

PLACE: The Castle at Elsinore, Denmark  
TIME: Immediately following the events of Hamlet

There will be one 15 minute Intermission

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## Playwright

LEE BLESSING has had over a dozen new plays produced in the last decade. The Signature Theater devoted its 1992-93 New York season to Blessing's works, including the world premiere of his play, *Patient A*. In 1988, Blessing's play, *A Walk In The Woods*, opened on Broadway and was subsequently produced in Londo's West End, starring Sir Alex Guinness. It has since appeared on "American Playhouse" and stages worldwide.

Other plays include *Fortinbras*, *Down The Road* and *Two Rooms*, all commissioned by the La Jolla Playhouse; *Cobb*, which premiered at Yale Repertory Theater; *Eleemosynary*, produced by the Manhattan Theatre Club; *Riches*, *Independence*, *Oldtimer's Game* and *Nice People Dancing To Good Country Music*, all of which premiered at the Actors Theatre of Louisville; and, most recently, *The Rights*, a co-commission by the Theatre On The Square of Mairretta, GA and the Ensemble Theatre Company of Cincinnati, which also premiered his play, *Lake Street Extension*.

Mr. Blessing's plays have won the American Theater Critics Award and the George and Elisabeth Marton Award, and have been nominated for Tony and Olivier Awards and the Pulitzer Prize. He is the grateful recipient of grants from the NEA and the Guggenheim, Bush, McKnight and Jerome Foundations.

Mr. Blessing's TNT film, *Cooperstown*, starring Alan Arkin and Graham Greene, won the 1993 Humanities Prize for PBS/Cable as well as three nominations for 1993 Cable Ace Awards, including best writing. He is currently working on screenplays for both the Savoy and Disney companies.

*Fortinbras* received its world premiere at the La Jolla Playhouse in La Jolla, California, on June 18, 1991.

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## Profiles



**JONATHAN BRENT** (*Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*) was last seen in Undermain's production of *Mad Forest* in which he played Gabriel. Mr. Brent is a bit of a "neurotic nomad," as he coins the term. Although born in Dallas, he has moved around quite a lot. He was awarded a scholarship to train and study at Mountview Theatre School in London. While there, he underwent intensive training of many styles of acting - ranging from Jacobean to Restoration Comedy. He also trained with the Moscow Arts Theatre, focusing on Chekhov's plays. Some of his most memorable roles

have been Mozart in *Amadeus* and Billy in the London premiere of *Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens*. This may be Mr. Brent's debut with Theatre Three, but not for his family. His grandmother, mother and uncle have all walked through these halls. He is proud to be a part of the lineage.



**TERRY DOBSON** (*Osric, member of the Danish court*) has been associated with Theatre Three since May, 1980, as the Staff Musical Director and Assistant to the Producer. As Musical Director, he has been responsible for over forty musical productions, including last season's hit, *Always...Patsy Cline*. As an actor, Terry has appeared in several roles such as 93/94's *Wholly Moliere!* and *The Fantasticks*. In 1984, he was cited by the Dallas Times Herald as "Best Supporting Actor" for his role as Leon in *The Wake of Jamey Foster*. Terry is also the Musical Director for ENCORE! (the

small group ensemble from the renowned Turtle Creek Chorale) and a free-lance pianist and arranger. Last year he performed in concert with Carole Cook, Denise LeBrun and Dr. Timothy Seelig and several of his vocal arrangements are currently being performed by the Turtle Creek Chorale, The Lexington Men's Chorus and the Alamo City Men's Chorale. Terry dedicates this performance to Annie and Amanda (his cocker spaniel and her Heinz 57 companion).



**DENNIS MILLEGAN** (*Horatio, friend of Hamlet*) makes his Theatre Three debut with *Fortinbras*. He has been seen in such diverse roles as Pepe in the Pocket Sandwich Theatre's *Tear Jerker* and as the Dog in *Mad Forest* at the Undermain. Other Metroplex appearances include Alceste in *The Misanthrope* and DeSoto in *Royal Hunt of the Sun*, both for Gryphon Players, as well as Pantalone in *Three Cuckolds* at the Addison Centre Theater. Dennis works with Kidsprov, an improvisational comedy troupe

which performs in schools throughout the state bringing fun and education together for the benefit of children. He is also a founding member of Rubber Chicken, a comedy troupe which performs throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth area.



**MARK HADLEY** (*Fortinbras, Prince of Norway*) is making his third appearance at Theatre Three, having previously played Roy in *A Small Family Business*, and Lee Harvey Oswald in *Assassins*. Other area credits include *Only Kidding* and *Emerald City* (Circle Theatre), *Prelude To A Kiss* (Theatre Arlington), *The Woods* (new Artists' Theatre Co.), and *Cymbeline* (11th St. Theatre Project). Mark also recently directed *Manet, Dammit!* for the New Artists' Theatre Co. Mark would like to thank his four cats for allowing him and his beautiful wife, Lanell, to live in their house.



**FRANK CORTESE** (*Captain of the Norwegian Army*) is making his first appearance at Theatre Three. A native of Stamford, Connecticut, he has studied with many coaches in the New York and Texas areas. He was last seen at the John Anthony Theater as the Scarlet Knight in *Stefanie Hero*. In addition to acting, Mr. Cortese also models throughout the United States. He has also made appearances in television and film, most recently on *Walker, Texas Ranger*. He is very excited to be performing at Theatre Three.

## Profiles



**STEVE WESTERHEIDE** (*Marcellus, a sentinel*) makes his first appearance with Theatre Three in *Fortinbras*. He has previously appeared as Larry in Pegasus Theatre's production of *Men's Singles* and as a 300 pound friar in the Pocket Sandwich Theatre's melodrama, *The Legend Of Zorro*. (That Slim-Fast really works!) Most recently he performed three separate roles (a corporate raider, a business executive and a vagrant) in the staged reading of *Take It, It's Yours* at Pegasus and originated the role of Brian in D. Marie Gillespie's comedy, *Put Asunder* for STAGES '93. Prior to moving

to Dallas, Mr. Westerheide appeared in numerous productions, counting as his favorite roles Matt in *The Fantasticks*, Venice in *Buried Child*, and Joey in *The Homecoming*. Originally from Muskogee, Oklahoma, he proudly proclaims Merle Haggard as the greatest country and Western singer who ever lived...while secretly acknowledging a terrible fear of the dreaded Muskogee mafia. Mr. Westerheide is also active in the broadcast industry.



**LEM WHITE** (*Barnardo, a sentinel*) was born in Washington, D.C. but has lived most of his life in Amarillo, Texas, where he earned his associate degree in Science at Amarillo College. He received a B.F.A. in Theatre with an emphasis on acting and directing from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. This is Mr. White's first appearance with Theatre Three. Some of his local favorite performances are *Laughter* for Undermain, *The Night Hank Williams Died* and *A Few Good Men* for the Circle Theatre and, most recently, *K-2* for the new Woodburning Theatre Co.



**DEBORAH SAMMONS** (*First Polish Maiden*) has appeared in Theatre Three's production of *DROOD!* as an ensemble member. She graduated this May from the Performing Artists' Musical Theatre Conservatory at Mountain View College. Theatre roles include a principle soloist and dancer in *Some Enchanted Evening*, Glenda in *The Wizard Of Oz* and, most recently, Cassie in *A Chorus Line*. Prior to her theatre work, Ms. Sammons danced with the Fort Worth Ballet for one season.



**ELLEN LOCY** (*Second Polish Maiden*) is pleased to be making her Theatre Three debut in *Fortinbras*. She most recently played Satan in Rising Moon Theatre's *A Season In Hell*. Her favorite roles include the Sleeper in *Almost Asleep* at the Undermain Theatre, Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* at Casa Manaña, Charity in *H.I.D.—Hess is Dead* at the Addison Centre Theatre, Anna in *Burn This* at Hard City Theatre, and Angustias in *The House Of Bernarda Alba* at Teatro Dallas. Ms. Locy is also involved with the Playwright's Project and other organizations to help develop local writers' works. She has performed in readings at the Pegasus Theatre and the Dallas Museum of Art and is also active in the film and broadcast industry.



**TERRY VANDIVORT** (*Polonius, the Court Councillor and English Ambassador*) was last seen on Theatre Three's stage in last season's production of *Shadowlands* as Christopher Riley, *Wholly Moliere!* (*The School for Husbands* and *The Imaginary Cuckold*) and *A Small Family Business*. Other Theatre Three productions include *Waiting For Godot*, *Amateurs*, *Infidelities*, *London Assurance* (Patron Favorite Award), *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* (Patron Favorite Award) and *Taking Steps* (Dallas Theatre Critics Forum Award). He has appeared in the Lean Theater production of

*Patterns*, directed by Thurman Moss. Mr. Vandivort recently completed performing in *Boy Meets Girl* at Addison Centre Theater. At Dallas Theater Center he has appeared in David Petrarca's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Misalliance*. He played Trincula in *The Tempest* at Dallas Shakespeare Festival, and in *School For Scandal* and *Kennedy's Children*, both Off-Broadway productions. With Jerry Crow, Mr. Vandivort has co-written the musical revues



## Profiles

of *Cat on a Hot Tin Streetcar* and *The Binkleys of Broadway* for Born-In-A-Trunk Productions. Mr. Vandivort would like to dedicate this performance to Norma Young.



**TABITHA WOODS** (*Ophelia, Polonius' daughter*) makes her first appearance with Theatre Three. She was most recently seen as Antonietta in *Tear Jerker* at the Pocket Sandwich Theatre, and as Florina in the Undermain Theatre's production of *Mad Forest*. Last summer she appeared in the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival as Portia in *Julius Caesar*, and Maria in *Twelfth Night*. Currently Ms. Woods works as an actress/vocalist/director for the Big Time Radio Network and is a member of The Usual Suspects, an improvisation troupe based in Dallas.



**DENNIS MAHER** (*Claudius, King of Denmark*) last played Claudius in Theatre Three's production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* eleven years ago. An actor/director/playwright for over twenty years, Mr. Maher has worked with UW-Madison and the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre in the development of new plays and with noted playwrights Preston Jones, Israel Horovitz, Larry Shue, Amlin Grey and Glen Allen Smith. He is also a frequently produced and award-winning playwright and director. A Professor and Director of Theatre Arts at UT/Arlington, Mr. Maher's most recent performance was as Scrooge in Israel Horovitz's *Scrooge and Marley*. He will direct *Bleacher Bums* this July at UT/A. He lives in south Arlington with his wife, actor/director/playwright Melanie Mason, and is currently writing a musical about the early days of the film industry, a musical revue about the Depression and a "memory play."



**Cecilia Flores** (*Gertrude, Queen of Denmark*) first appeared at Theatre Three in 1975 in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* with Hugh Feagin, as well as *The Road To Rome*, *Ladies at the Alamo*, *Tartuffe*, *Fallen Angels*, *Candide* and *Arms and the Man*, among others. She has performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, at the Dallas Theater Center (for both Paul Baker and Ken Bryant), Fort Worth's Shakespeare in the Park and the Dallas Children's Theater. Last season, Ms. Flores directed *Shakin' The Mess Outta Misery* for both Fort Worth's Jubilee Theater and Addison Centre Theatre, *Fuente Ovejuna* at SMU's Greer Garson Theater, and will direct *Iolanthe* for the Texas Gilbert & Sullivan Company in November. A past chairwomen of the Texas Commission on the Arts' Theatre Panel and an Arts-in-Education and Expansion Arts panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, she teaches Shakespeare and acting for KD Studios. This *Gertrude* is her first role from beyond the pale; she has played the live version.



**MICHAEL DAVID** (*Laertes, Polonius's son*) Performing for the first time at Theatre Three, actor Michael David has appeared in multiple plays, films and commercials in the Dallas area. A graduate from the University of North Texas, Mr. David paid his dues as an acting apprentice at the renowned Actor's Theatre of Louisville, KY., where he made his professional debut in the Humana Festival of New American Plays' production of *In The Eye Of The Hurricane*. Local credits include *Captain Potts in Fu Manchu: The Melodrama* at the Pocket Sandwich Theatre and *Mercurio* in the U.N.T. production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Film projects include *Born On The Fourth Of July* and the up-coming *Only In America*.

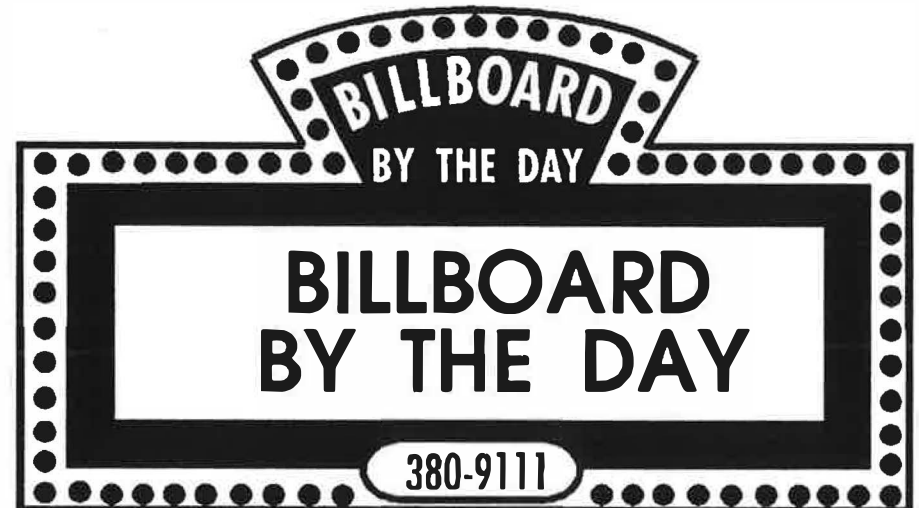
## Artistic Staff

**Jac Alder, Director**, has, since co-founding Theatre Three in 1961, directed the majority of its musical presentations (last season he directed the holiday revival of *The Fantasticks* and the world premiere of *Ball Games*). Always interested in new works he has served for the last two years as the director/dramaturg for new musicals in the Northwood University studio program. Besides his interest in directing and developing musical works, Mr. Alder is particularly interested in classics having directed works by Shaw, Shakespeare, Moliere and Goldoni. As Executive Producer-Director he selects the season and assembles the artistic and administrative team that - working with the Theatre's Board - operates Theatre Three in its year-round service to Dallas and its visitors.

**VERN MCKINNEY, Technical Director**, is in his third season at Theatre Three. A graduate of Angelo State University, Mr. McKinney has acted, directed or designed numerous shows. As an actor, he was last seen at Three Below in *Mammet, Dammit!* His most recent design work includes *Vital Signs*, *H.M.H. Pinafore* and *Into The Woods*. Mr. McKinney has directed *The Woods*, *Sexual Perversity In Chicago*, *No Sex Please, We're British* and *Grandma Duck Is Dead*. In 1992 Mr. McKinney and Mark Hadley began the New Artists Theatre Company. Their next production is *John Brown's Body*.

**DEIDRE MOSER, Costumes**, is starting her third season at Theatre Three. Ms. Moser's costume designs have been featured in The Pocket Sandwich Theatre's recent production of *Tearjerker*, Cold Shoulder Productions' *The Theory of Total Blame* and, Deep Ellum Opera Theatre's *The Mikado*. Theatre Three productions include *Always...Patsy Cline*, *Shadowlands*, *Ball Games!*, *DROOD!*, *Assassins* and *A Small Family Business*.

**LINDA BLASE, Lighting Design**. Her association with Theatre Three began with *Woman In Mind*. Subsequent designs at Theatre Three include musicals, dramas and comedies in every season since that initial assignment. Ms. Blase is also an accomplished photographer and documents many of Dallas' dramatic productions.



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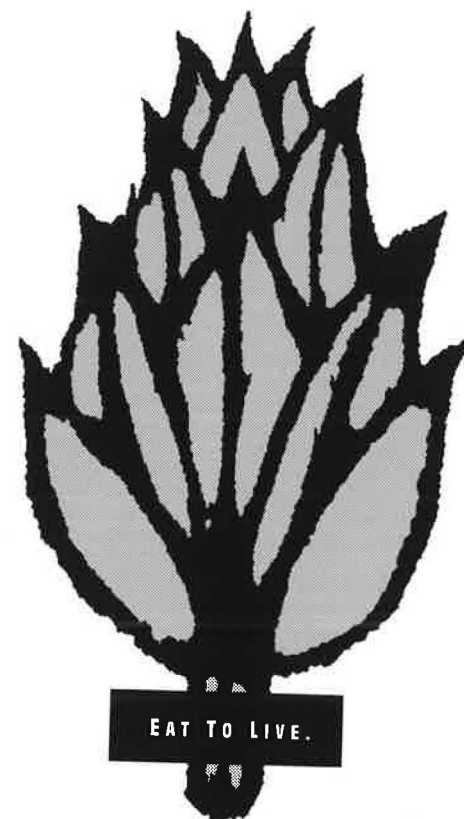
Stacey Ardoin for her generosity of considerable time and art direction for production of Theatre Three's 34th Season brochure. Steve and Cathy Furst of FurstPrint (our 500, Inc. liaison) and Moody Printing of Ft. Worth also contributed to our season brochure.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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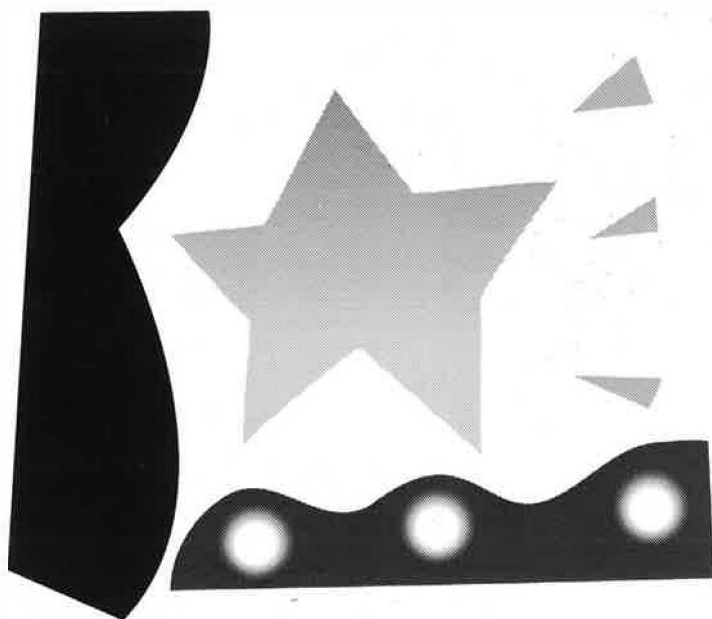


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