

HOUSTON

Shakespeare
FESTIVAL

1994

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

From the Producing Director



This summer marks our twentieth season. We are also celebrating Shakespeare's 430th birthday. There is a curious bridge between those two anniversaries. At first glance one might think that by the year 1994 Shakespeare might well be consigned to the dust bin of history, while our times, in turn, are glorified by new discoveries made on a daily basis. But do we really differ that much? The Elizabethan age too was one of discovery. It was as geo-centric as we are space-centric. In Shakespeare's day sails sped across the distant seas; now rockets hurtle into space. Though we tear away the outer darkness, we must ask ourselves whether we have made equivalent progress in understanding ourselves or our relationships with others. It would not seem so.

On a more global note, Shakespeare anguished over blood spilt in words that can equally be suited to the fields of Bosnia, Rwanda, or Yemen as to the plains of France, Scotland, or England in his own time:

Macduff: Bleed, bleed, poor country!
Malcolm: I think our country sinks beneath
the yoke;
It weeps, it bleeds; and each new
day a gash is added to her wounds.

He recognized the politics of tyranny ("Tis time to fear when tyrants seem to kiss") and watched impotently as we do now. Yet he equally perceived the great power of love ("... When love speaks, the voice of all the Gods/makes heaven drowsy with the harmony.") And so we return to him again and again, listening in rapt attention to Lear as he rails against the decay of the body and the mind, or Hamlet, as he moves further and further into the darkness of his own soul, toward self-revelation.

We celebrate two anniversaries here, but with each succeeding season, we honor the genius that was and continues to be William Shakespeare.

Sidney Berger, Producing Director

Festival History

This theatre operates under an agreement between the League of Resident Theatres and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors, and Stage Managers in the United States.

Now celebrating its twentieth anniversary season, the Houston Shakespeare Festival (HSF) has grown into one of the major events on Houston's summer entertainment calendar, attracting more than 450,000 people in its recent history. Festival audiences are an exciting mix of ethnic groups, young people, adults, and families who are able to experience, perhaps for the first time in an era when entertainment costs are often prohibitive to many, the excitement of live theatre.

Prior to the establishment of the festival, the fully equipped, city-supported Miller Outdoor Theatre boasted an impressive list of classical and jazz concerts, ballets, and operas in its schedule of free entertainment. Spoken drama was conspicuously missing.

In 1975, Sidney Berger, director of the School of Theatre at the University of Houston, met with university administrators and the Miller Theatre Advisory Council to enlist support for a two-production season of Shakespeare's works to be played in repertory on Miller Theatre's bill.

The trial season was greeted with enthusiasm. Audience size exceeded expectations, and letters of appreciation from private citizens and city officials were sent to the university's administration. Thus it was established that, in this unique collaboration between a city and a university, the works of the greatest playwright in our civilization's history would be produced on a sustained and professional basis.

Funding sources and audiences have grown in successive seasons. In addition to a budget appropriation, the University of Houston provides rehearsal space, offices, scene and costume shops, as well as personnel in the areas of administration, development, and public relations. There is now a Festivals Company board of directors whose interests also include the Children's Theatre Festival and other professional projects of the UH School of Theatre. For many seasons, HSF engaged a number of Actors' Equity Association Guest Artists. In 1989, a special grant was awarded by the Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts so that HSF could take its place as a member of the League of Resident Theatres, the nation's professional community of Equity companies.

Associations with other related organizations continue. Sidney Berger is co-founder and past president of the Shakespeare Theatre Association of America, an organization uniting all Shakespearean theatres of North America. Its mission is to act as a forum for the exchange of ideas and resources relating to the production of Shakespeare's plays. Also active is HSF's affiliation with the International Shakespeare Globe Centre, an organization committed to rebuilding the Globe Theatre as close to its original site as possible, and the Shakespeare Globe Centre of the Southwest, which presents Shakespeare Outreach programs and residencies free to schools and other institutions throughout the city.

Houston Shakespeare Festival

Hamlet

July 29, August 4, 6, 10, 12

Love's Labor's Lost

July 30, August 3, 5, 11, 13

Produced by the University of Houston School of Theatre

These productions are
sponsored in part by the

City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department
and by a grant from the
Cultural Arts Council of Houston
through the Miller Theatre Advisory Council

Special appreciation
for major support
is extended to

The Brown Foundation, Inc.
Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts
The Houston Endowment, Inc.
and the
Scholarship Foundation of the Houston Delphian Assembly

The Houston
Shakespeare Festival
also gratefully
acknowledges
special grants from

Arthur Andersen/Andersen Consulting
Browning-Ferris Industries
Festival Angels
KUHf 88.7
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Texas Commerce Bancshares
Texas Commission on the Arts
Transco Energy Co.
Young and Hampton

"God save the foundation!"—*Much Ado about Nothing*

This season is dedicated
to the memory of Sam Wanamaker

Hamlet

Directed by
Sidney Berger
Sets designed by
Jonathan Middents
Costumes designed by
Katherine Snider
Lighting designed by
John Gow
Properties designed by
David Hoth
Original music
composed by
Robert Nelson
Sound designed by
Kelly Babb
Fights and special
movement
choreographed by
Mark Olsen
Assistant to
fight choreographer
Markus Langhans
Vocal coaching by
Deborah Kinghorn
Assistant vocal coach
Susan J. Roman
Production
stage manager
Amy Dudley Smith*
Production coordinator
Shawn Evan Gresser

Individual performances
have been sponsored
as follows

July 29
Transco Energy Co.
August 4
Festival Angels
August 6
Shell Oil Company
Foundation
August 10
Texas Commerce
Bancshares
August 12
The Houston
Endowment, Inc.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Francisco, a soldier	Bob Boudreaux
Bernardo, a soldier	Bruce Ellis
Marcellus, an officer	Derek Alan Cecil
Horatio, Hamlet's friend	Dennis Turney
Ghost of Hamlet's father	Dan Flahive
Prince Hamlet, late king's son and present king's nephew	Paul Alexander
Claudius, King of Denmark	Rutherford Cravens*
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark, Hamlet's mother	Barbara Sims*
Polonius, Lord Chamberlain	James Belcher*
Laertes, Polonius' son	Randal Doerner*
Ophelia, Polonius' daughter	Gwendolyn McLarty
Rosencrantz	Jeff Baldwin*
Guildenstern	Richard Kuehn
A Norwegian captain	Bruce Ellis
Travelling players	Player Poisoner Player Queen Player King Players
	Erica K. Garrison Krista Forster Humberto Adrian Perez Jason Scott Douglas Nicole Bruder
Gravedigger	Daniel Dyer
Sailor	Jason Scott Douglas
Priest	James R. Pittman
Osrice	Peter T. Lieu
Members of the court	Nicole Bruder Jason Scott Douglas Krista Forster Erica K. Garrison Humberto Adrian Perez James R. Pittman Bev Raney Traci Lynn Shannon

Scene: Elsinore

*Member of Actor's Equity Association



Anthony Burgess

"Shakespeare wrote nothing for the greater part of that year [1601]. Then, in the autumn, he wrote the play which, of all plays ever written, the world could least do without."

Leviticus 18:20

"Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness. And if a man shall take his brother's wife, it is an unclean thing; he hath uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless."

Dimitri Shostakovich

"In general, our theatre has had trouble with Shakespeare, particularly with Hamlet and Macbeth. Stalin could stand neither of these plays. Why? It seems fairly obvious. A criminal ruler—what could attract the leader . . . in that theme? Shakespeare was a seer—man stalks power, walking knee-deep in blood. And he was so naive, Shakespeare. Pangs of conscience and guilt and all that—What guilty conscience?"

THE PLOT

Prince Hamlet learns from King Hamlet's ghost that Claudius, Hamlet's uncle and the late King's brother, poisoned the King in order to gain both the throne and Queen Gertrude, Hamlet's mother. Urged by the Ghost to seek revenge, Hamlet utilizes the arrival of a troupe of actors to devise a play in which the murder is reenacted before Gertrude, Claudius, and the court. Hamlet berates his mother for her adultery and rashly kills the Lord Chamberlain, Polonius, who had forbidden his daughter Ophelia to see the obviously troubled Prince Hamlet. King Claudius sends Hamlet to England while urging Laertes, Polonius' son, to seek revenge. On his return from England, Hamlet finds Ophelia dead. Claudius arranges for Hamlet to be killed in a fencing match with Laertes, whose rapier has been dipped in poison. The plot miscarries, and Laertes dies. Gertrude drinks the poisoned cup intended for Hamlet, and Hamlet kills Claudius. Wounded by the poisoned rapier, Hamlet too dies.

Love's Labor's Lost

Directed by
Carolyn Houston Boone

Sets designed by
Jonathan Middents

Costumes designed by
Katherine Snider

Lighting designed by
John Gow

Properties designed by
David Hoth

Sound design by
Kelly Babb

Movement coaching by
Mark Olsen

Vocal coaching by
Deborah Kinghorn

Assistant vocal coach
Susan J. Roman

Production
stage manager
Amy Dudley Smith*

Production coordinator
Shawn Evan Gresser

Stage
management intern
Jan Daughtry

Individual performances
are sponsored
as follows

July 30
The Brown
Foundation, Inc.

August 3
KUHf

August 5
Cullen Trust for the
Performing Arts

August 11
Arthur Andersen/
Andersen Consulting

August 13
Browning-Ferris
Industries

CAST

The Court of Navarre

Ferdinand, *King of Navarre* Randal Doerner*

Young Lords Attending on the King

Berowne Paul Alexander
Longville Derek Alan Cecil
Dumaine Dennis Turney
Don Adriano de Armado, *a fantastical Spaniard* Jeff Baldwin*
Moth, *page to Don Armado* Peter T. Lieu

The French Embassy

The Princess of France 'Gage Tarrant*
Boyet, *chamberlain to the Princess* James Belcher*
Marcade, *a messenger* Bob Boudreaux

Ladies Attending on the Princess

Rosaline Barbara Sims*
Maria Adrienne Dreiss
Katharine Gwendolyn McLarty

The Local Inhabitants

Dull, *a constable* Richard Kuehn
Costard, *a clown* Daniel Dyer
Jaquenetta, *a country wench* Nathalie Cunningham
A forester Bob Boudreaux
Holofernes, *a schoolmaster* Rutherford Cravens*
Sir Nathaniel, *a curate* Ralph Ehntholt

Court staff
Nicole Bruder
Krista Forster
Daria James
Karen Kurzbuch
Bob McNelis

In the 1900s—The King of Navarre's Park

*Member of Actor's Equity Association



W. H. Auden

"Few can remember clearly when Innocence came to a sudden end, the moment at which we ask for the first time: 'Am I loved?'"

John Masefield

"The play is full of the problem of what to do with the mind. Shall it be filled with study, or spent in society or burnt in a passion or tortured by striving for style, or left as it is?"

Robert Herrick,
from *To the Virgins,*
To Make Much of Time

Gather ye rosebuds while ye may,
Old time is still a-flying:
And this same flower that smiles today
Tomorrow will be dying.

THE PLOT

The young King of Navarre and three of his friends resolve to seclude themselves within the court to study, meditate, and commune with nature. So fervent is their idealism that they forswear the company of women during the proposed three-year retreat. No sooner have the men taken their oaths to pursue this ascetic path than the Princess of France and three ladies-in-waiting arrive on an urgent diplomatic mission. Affairs of state soon give way to affairs of the heart. Secret letters and disguises become the instruments of romance. In the midst of hilarity engendered by the local inhabitants' attempt to present a pageant for the assembly, a messenger arrives from France with somber news. Real life intervenes, and summer turns to fall.

Artistic Staff

Sidney Berger (Producing Director)

Founder of the Houston Shakespeare Festival, past president and founder of the Shakespeare Theatre Association of America, member of the International Shakespeare Globe Centre Board, and recipient of the Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Contribution by a Performing Artist, Dr. Berger has directed recent HSF productions of *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Henry V*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Coriolanus*, as well as *Sight Unseen* and *Substance and Fire* at Stages Repertory Theatre, where he serves as Artistic Consultant. As an associate artist of the Alley Theatre, he has directed *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire De Lune* and *T-Bone N Weasel*. Director of the University of Houston School of Theatre and producer of the Children's Theatre Festival, Dr. Berger received the university's Esther Farfel Award. Dr. Berger also co-produces, writes, and directs "Stage Center" for Houston Public Television.

Carolyn Houston Boone (Director)

Carolyn Boone, director of last season's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, is a member of the faculty of the UH School of Theatre where she teaches directing and acting. Some of the shows directed at UH are *Biederman and the Firebugs*, *The Fifth of July*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Scapino!*. Other directing credits include productions at Main Street Theatre, Strand Street Theatre, Stages Repertory Theatre, and the Children's Theatre Festival. As an actress, Ms. Boone was last seen as Marge Hackett in *The Substance of Fire* at Stages, starring Jerome Kilty; and as Sissy in *A Piece of My Heart* at Main Street. She also played Melissa in *Love Letters* at the Strand Street in Galveston. Other representative roles include Rachael in *Reckless*, M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*, and Mistress Page in the HSF production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

Jonathan Middents (Scenic Designer/Production Manager)

Jonathan Middents has been a member of the Festivals Company and the UH School of Theatre for eleven years. In addition to management and teaching duties, his work in the past year has included set designs for the UH production of *Picnic*, the UH Downtown productions of *Waiting for Godot* and *The Piano Lesson* (for which he also designed the lighting), as well as the sound design for the UH productions of *Scapino!* and *Twelfth Night*. He received a BA from Rice University and an MFA from Florida State University, and has worked previously as Designer/Technical Director at UH-Clear Lake, UT-Austin, and Indiana State University.

Katherine Snider (Costume Designer)

Katherine Snider graduated from Clemson University with a BA in design and is currently finishing her MFA in design at UH. At UH she designed costumes for *Biederman and the Firebugs*, as well as *The Jungle Book*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Magic Pot and the Leprechaun* for the Children's Theatre Festival of Houston. She has also designed costumes for KUHT's *The Pear Tree* and the 1993 Houston Revels Christmas Show, and sets for *A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur* at Stages Repertory Theatre. With her technical training in masks, hats, and crafts, Ms. Snider has worked as a freelance craft technician for the Alley Theatre, the Houston Ballet, and the Houston Shakespeare Festival.

Kelly Babb (Sound Designer)

Kelly Babb is resident sound and lighting designer for College of the Mainland in Texas City. He is also Designer-in-Residence for the University of Houston Opera Theatre and Actor's Workshop of Houston. He has designed sound and/or lights for Stages Repertory Theatre, The Ensemble, Diverse Works, Strand Street Theatre, Upper Deck Theatre, and The Children's Theatre Festival. A graduate of UH, this is Mr. Babb's eighth season with HSF.

John Gow (Lighting Designer)

John Gow has designed more than 80 productions for Houston theatres, among them 26 for HSF including *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Julius Caesar*, *Othello*, *All's Well that Ends Well*, *Measure for Measure*, and *Richard III*. For the Alley Theatre, he designed lighting for *Keebs* and *Doc*, *Chic Impromptu*, and *Krapp's Last Tape*, and for Stages Repertory Theatre he designed scenery and/or lighting for *Hotel Oublette*, *Always ... Pacey Cline*, *Sight Unseen*, *Betrayer*, and *Pacific Overlays*, among others. He has also designed many productions for the Children's Theatre Festival, including *Beauty and the Beast*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Snow White*, and *Martin the Magician*. He is staff designer for the UH School of Theatre, where he has designed scenery and lighting for such productions as *Twelfth Night*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Comedy of Errors*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Ring Round the Moon*, and *Ladyhouse Blues*.

David Hoth (Properties Designer)

David Hoth returned to Houston this summer following his graduation from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he received his MFA in properties design. During his residency there, Mr. Hoth worked on several shows at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Credits include serving as scenery designer for *Die Fledermaus*, property master for *What Every Woman Knows* and *Season's Greetings*, and property designer for *The Miser*. Now in his fourth season with the Festivals Company, some of his Houston credits include *Henry V*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Yoshi and the Thunder Dragon*.

Deborah Kinghorn* (Vocal Coach)

Deborah Kinghorn is on the faculty of the UH School of Theatre and has numerous academic and professional theatre credits as a vocal and dialect coach and as an actress. As a vocal coach, her work has been heard in the recent productions of *Sweet Scene* at Houston Grand Opera, and *Dancing at Lughnasa* and *Orpheus Descending* at the Alley Theatre. Other productions she has coached in the Houston area include *Danton's Death* at the Alley Theatre, *The Sun of Us and My Children!* *My Africa!* at TheatreLAB, and *Henry V* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Houston Shakespeare Festival. Ms. Kinghorn is a member of the Voice and Speech Trainer's Association and Actor's Equity. She frequently conducts private classes and group workshops during the year.

Mark Olsen (Combat Master/Movement Coach)

Mark Olsen, a certified teacher and regional representative for the Society of American Fight Directors, has performed professionally as a leading actor with the Human Race Theatre, the Cincinnati Ensemble Theatre, and in the mime/mask show *Mummenschanz*. A new addition to the UH faculty as a movement specialist, Mr. Olsen has taught at Carnegie Mellon University, Ryerson Theatre School in Toronto, and most recently at Wright State University, where he coordinated the acting and movement programs. Among the many productions for which he has coached movement and combat are *Henry V*, *Cymbeline*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, and *Hair*.

*Member of Actor's Equity Association

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Antiques Co-op
Jeff Baldwin
LaVeda Ames
Dr. and Mrs. Frazier

The Company



Paul Alexander

Paul Alexander has worked extensively in the theatre with such companies as the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Welsh National, and the Oxford Playhouse. His principal roles include Cliff in *Look Back in Anger*, Lord Fancourt Babberley in *Charlie's Aunt*, Lucky in *Waiting for Godot*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, Mick in *The Caretaker*,

Milo in *Sleuth*, the title role in *Dr. Faustus*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Henry Carr in *Travesties*, Torvald Helmer in *A Doll's House*, Frank in *Educating Rita*, and Angelo in *Measure for Measure*. Directing credits include such plays as *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *The Psalms*, *A Sleep of Prisoners*, and *In Camera*. He has worked in over sixty productions on television and in film from *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Villains*, and Jane Austin's *Persuasion*, to *Drake's Venture*, *Spy Story*, and *John's Gospel*.



Jeff Baldwin*

This year marks Jeff Baldwin's eighth season with HSF with previous credits including Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Pistol in *Henry V*, Verges in *Much Ado about Nothing*, Aragon in *The Merchant of Venice*, as well as appearances in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Comedy of Errors*, and *Hamlet*.

At Stages Repertory Theatre he was recently seen as Father Dan in *Jeffrey*, at the Strand Street Theatre in *Inspecting Carol* as Wayne, and also in the Theatre Under the Stars production of *South Pacific*. Each fall he can be seen at the Texas Renaissance Festival, where he also serves as fight choreographer. In his tenth season with the Children's Theatre Festival, Mr. Baldwin appears in the role of Karl Heinz in *The Pied Piper*.



James Belcher*

Among the roles that James Belcher has performed for HSF are Chorus in *Henry V*, Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Sir Andrew Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night*, Mowbray in *Richard II*, Launcelot in *The Merchant of Venice* and Falstaff in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. A member of the Alley Theatre resident company for eight years, his many roles there include Peter in *Pack of Lies*, H. Rudd in *Holy Ghosts*, and Louis in *A View from the Bridge* on the national tour.

Mr. Belcher has appeared in productions for Theatre Under the Stars, the Windmill Dinner Theatre, Jewish Community Center, and the University of Houston. He has been seen previously at Stages Repertory Theatre in the production of *Frida and Diego*. Mr. Belcher directed *Picnic* for the University of Houston, *The Velvetene Rabbit* for Early Stages Theatre, *Vacla Havell's Temptation at Diverse Works*, and *Lettice and Lovage* for Strand Street Theatre in Galveston. Television and film credits include *The James Brady Story*, *The Challenger*, *Sam Houston*, *Doc's Full Service*, and *Cultivating Charlie*.



Bob Boudreaux

Bob Boudreaux has been a local television news personality with KTRK, Channel 13, for fifteen years. Now in his fifth season with the HSF, past roles have included Jany in *Henry V*, John Rugby in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, the Sexton in *Much Ado About Nothing*, as well as appearances in *The Tempest*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Merchant*

of *Venice*. Mr. Boudreaux was also seen as the narrator in the 1992 Stages Repertory Theatre production of *Side by Side* by *Sondheim*. Currently serving on the Festival's Board of

Directors and the Advisory Board of the Worldfest International Film Festival, for the past two years Mr. Boudreaux has been the honorary chairman of the Fort Bend "Shakespeare by the Book" Festival.



Derek Alan Cecil

This is Derek Alan Cecil's second season with HSF. Previously he was seen as Gregory in *Romeo and Juliet*. While working toward his bachelor's degree at the UH School of Theatre, he performed as Doc in *Crimes of the Heart*, Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, and Tripaldi in *Lorca*. He has also worked with the Children's Theatre Festival, where he has been seen as Beauty in *Beauty and the Beast* and as Yuhdi in *Yuhdi and the Thunder Dragon*. He can also be seen in many television commercials as well as on features for PBS.



Rutherford Cravens*

Rutherford Cravens is the Executive Director of the Shakespeare Globe Centre of the Southwest and producer/director of Shakespeare Outreach, Houston's only free touring theatre. In past HSF seasons, he directed *Troilus and Cressida* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and appeared in roles that included Don John in *Much Ado about*

Nothing, Feste in *Twelfth Night*, and Grumio in *The Taming of the Shrew*. He has also appeared at the Strand Street Theatre as Moon in *The Real Inspector Hound* and as Frank in *Educating Rita*. Among his roles for the Alley Theatre were Renfield in *Dracula* and Leon Shwab in *Voice of the Prairie* and at Stages Repertory Theatre he appeared in *Frida and Diego*, *Sight Unseen*, *The Substance of Fire*, and as Robert in *Betrayal*. At the Actor's Theatre he appeared in *Chorus of Disapproval* and as Aaron Levinsky in *Nuts*.



Nathalie Cunningham

Nathalie Cunningham's Houston credits include roles in HSF's *Henry V*, the Strand Street Theatre's *The Immigrant*, and Main Street Theatre's *The Triumph of Love*. Her voice can also be heard on Houston radio and television. Prior to her Houston residency, Ms. Cunningham spent eight years acting professionally in and around

Chicago, as well as touring throughout the U.S. and abroad.



Randal Doerner*

Randal Doerner is a native Houstonian and former professional ballet dancer who graduated with a BA from the UH School of Theatre. He has previously appeared with HSF as Theseus/Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the Constable of France in *Henry V*, and Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*. He has also been seen recently as Cassius in

Julius Caesar at Main Street Theatre and as a man in *Orpheus Descending* at the Alley Theatre. Randal has played many roles at UH including Kurt in *Closed for Repairs*, the title role in *Stridath*, Uncle John in *The Grapes of Repairs*, Frankie in *Birdbath*, and Boris Kolerkhov in *You Can't Take It With You*. Some of Mr. Doerner's film credits include the Channel 8 production of *Alamo Dream*, where he appeared as Colonel William Travis, and *Witness to the Execution* for NBC.

Past Productions

- 1975
A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Taming of the Shrew
- 1976
The Tempest
Romeo and Juliet
- 1977
Hamlet
The Comedy of Errors
- 1978
The Merry Wives of Windsor
Macbeth
- 1979
Twelfth Night
Much Ado about Nothing
- 1980
As You Like It
King Lear
- 1981
A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Merchant of Venice
- 1982
Love's Labor's Lost
The Tempest
- 1983
The Winter's Tale
The Comedy of Errors
- 1984
Hamlet
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
- 1985
Measure for Measure
Richard III
- 1986
Othello
All's Well That Ends Well
- 1987
Julius Caesar
The Taming of the Shrew
- 1988
Richard II
Twelfth Night
- 1989
Coriolanus
As You Like It
- 1990
The Tempest
Troilus and Cressida
- 1991
The Merchant of Venice
The Merry Wives of Windsor
- 1992
Much Ado About Nothing
Romeo and Juliet
- 1993
Henry V
A Midsummer Night's Dream



Adrienne Dreiss

Adrienne Dreiss received a BFA from Boston University, where her roles included Elvira in *Blithe Spirit*, Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, Lula in *Dutchman*, Duckling in *Our Country's Good*, Florina in *Mad Forest*, and Thea Elvsted in *Hedda Gabler*. Following graduation, Ms. Dreiss worked with the Huntington Theatre Company in Boston, understudying the role of Kaina in its production of *Arms and the Man*. In the fall of 1993 she went to London to train at the British/American Drama Academy, where she appeared as Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* directed by Toby Robertson.



Daniel Dyer

Daniel Dyer has appeared in *The Most Happy Fella* and *Fiddler on the Roof* for Theatre Under the Stars as well as *Into the Woods* and *Flora*, the *Red Menace* for Main Street Theatre. Other credits include *Aeschylus's Fables*, *The Magic of the Woods*, *After Ever After*, *Street Theatre*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and *Pacific Overtures* for such companies as the Express Theatre, the Houston Skyline Theatre, the Julie Roger's Theatre, and Stages Repertory Theatre. He has also worked with the Children's Theatre Festival for two seasons appearing as the Dragon in *The Magic Machine* and as Herr Kraus in *The Pied Piper*.



Ralph Ehntholt

Ralph Ehntholt's credits include *The Playboy of the Western World*, *Devil's Disciple*, and *Heartbreak House*, all for the Houston Shaw Festival. He has also performed in *Cinderella*, *The Music Man*, *Who's Life is it Anyway?*, *Misder Mystery*, *Marvin's Room*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and *The Canterbury Tales* for such theatres as the Shakespeare Children's Theatre Festival, Galveston Amphitheatre, Stages Repertory Theatre, Keith and Mango's Murder Mystery Theatre, College of the Mainland, University of Houston at Clear Lake, and Main Street Theatre. Currently he can be seen in the Children's Theatre Festival production of *The Pied Piper* as the King Rat and Adult Hans.



Bruce Ellis

Most recently Bruce Ellis has been seen as Angelo in *Measure for Measure*, the title role in *Richard III*, Beadle Bamford in *Sweeney Todd*, Ted Klausermann in *Three Guys Naked from the Waist Down*, Marius in *Fanny*, Dr. Harry Trench in *Widowers' Houses*, Johnny Tarleton in *Misalliance*, Hector Hushabye in *Heartbreak House*, Buffalo Bill in *Indians*, and the Herald in *Marat/Sade* at such theatres as Main Street Theatre, Houston Shaw Festival, and the Actor's Workshop. HSF audiences have seen him in *Henry V*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Measure for Measure*, *Richard III*, and *Othello*.



Dan Flahive

This is Dan Flahive's second season with HSF, having appeared as Sir Thomas Erpingham in last season's *Henry V*. For Main Street Theatre he has been seen as Prospero in *The Tempest*, Colonel Giles Lacy in *Rebecca*, and Francis Flute/Thisby in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other theatre credits include Oswald Rutherford in *Murder at Rutherford House*, Karl in *Buster and Jokey Get Nailed*, Fenris Ulf in *Narina*, and Giles Corey in *The Crucible*.

Mr. Flahive has worked over a twelve-year period with the A.D. Players, for which he appeared for both live audiences and the camera.



Richard Kuehn

Richard Kuehn's stage experience includes Lord Scoop and Williams in *Henry V*, Howard Bevans in *Picnic*, Judes Pritkin in *On the Town*, Mr. Amzebus in *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and Jason Maple in *The Petrified Forest* for the Green Garson Theatre at the College of Santa Fe. Other roles include Trofimov in *The Cherry Orchard*, Tuenbach in *The Three Sisters*, and the Firechief in *The Bald Soprano*. While studying in London at the British American Drama Academy, Richard played Brass in *The Confederacy*.



Peter T. Lieu

Peter T. Lieu is a theatre major at UH, where he has performed such roles as Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, the title role in *Scapino!*, Angelo in *The Comedy of Errors*, the Groom in *Strider*, the Proprietor in *The Grapes of Wrath*, and Henderson in *You Can't Take It with You*. Mr. Lieu has also studied acting in workshops with José Quintero, and through study in stage combat workshops he was recently certified as an actor/combatant by the Society of American Fight Directors. In addition to his on-stage work, Mr. Lieu produces a theatre program called F.A.T.T. (Friday Afternoon Theatre Thing) at UH.



Gwendolyn McLarty

Gwendolyn McLarty has previously appeared for HSF as Herminia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Ariel in *The Tempest* and Cassandra in *Troilus and Cressida*, and for the Children's Theatre Festival in productions that include *Cinderella*, *Rapunzel*, and *Hansel & Gretel*, in which she played the title roles.

Ms. McLarty has been active with many local theatres including Main Street Theatre, Actor's Theatre of Houston, Strand Street Theatre, and Stages Repertory Theatre, where she performed in the American premiere of *Frida and Diego*. At UH her many roles include *Sofya* in *Wild Honey*, *Gwendolyn* in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Jill* in *The Fox*. Ms. McLarty has television and film credits that include *Was it a Dream?* for Houston Public Television's "Centerstage" and *The Trust*.



Barbara Sims*

Barbara Sims previously appeared with HSF as the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* and Margaret in *Much Ado about Nothing*. Earlier this summer, Ms. Sims appeared as Lettice Douffet in *Lettice and Lovage* at Strand Street Theatre. Currently a resident of Dallas, Ms. Sims commutes to New York City, where her recent credits include *Jessie Mae* in *Trip to Beautiful* with Ellen Burstyn, *Jannie* in *Winning the Ball at the Public*, *NYSF*, and *the Woman in Laughing Wild* for the Director's Theatre. American premieres include *Myra* in *Talking Pictures*, *Moonlight and Valentino* with Carlin Glynn and Mary Stuart Masterson, and *Betty* in *Rock and Betty Dance*. She will return to New York City in October to appear in the Off-Broadway premiere of Horton Foote's *Night Seasons* with Jean Stapleton. Ms. Sims is a member of the Actor's Studio in New York and a founding member of Great House, a multicultural company of performing and teaching artists.

**Gage Tarrant***

Gage Tarrant has been seen at Stages Repertory Theatre as Gloria in *Hotel Oublette* and Sarah in *The Substance of Fire* and has appeared at the Urban Theatre as Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* and Leni and Burstner in *Joseph K.* For HSF her credits include Hippolyta/Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Queen Isabel in *Henry V*,

Mistress Quickly in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice*, and Ceres in *The Tempest*. Other roles include Anna in *Burn This* at Main Street Theatre, Lucy in *Woman in Mind* at Stages Repertory Theatre, and a Woman in Robert Wilson's production of *Danton's Death* at the Alley Theatre. She is a graduate of UH, where she played numerous roles on both the main and lab stages and interned at the Alley, where she was seen in productions of *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Harvey*, and *Stengali*.

Nicole Bruder will graduate this summer from the UH School of Theatre. Some of her Houston credits include *November*, *Door Wolves*, *Bedroom Farce*, and *The Blind*.

Jason Scott Douglas has appeared in *Picnic* and *The Lorca Play* at the University of Houston; *Macbeth*, *Joseph K.*, *Equus*, and Seneca's *Oedipus* at the Urban Theatre; and most recently, *The Zoo Story* at the Westheimer Theatre. This is his second appearance in the Houston Shakespeare Festival.

Krista Forster is currently pursuing a BA in acting at the UH School of Theatre.

Erica K. Garrison, a graduate of the UH School of Theatre, appeared there in *Naomi in the Living Room*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and as Rosemary Sidney in *Picnic*. She appeared as several characters in the previous HSF season and was most recently seen as Portia in *Julius Caesar* at Main Street Theatre.

Daria James is a theatre major at UH and is also currently a company member of Express Children's Theatre. Most recently she was featured as the Gloom in the Children's Theatre Festival production of *Hansel & Gretel* and can now be seen as the Pied Piper in *The Pied Piper*.

**Dennis Turney**

Dennis Turney is a graduate of the UH School of Theatre, where his roles have included Tom Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath* and Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. He was seen most recently as Agis in *The Triumph of Love* at Main Street Theatre, where he also performed Stephen in *Major Barbara* and numerous roles in

Toad of Toad Hall. At Hits Unicorn Theatre, he played Laertes in *Hamlet* and for the West-Mon Repertory Theatre he performed Stu in *Talk Radio* and several roles in *Edmond*. He has performed for CTF and appeared in *Our Town* at the Alley Theatre. For HSF, Mr. Turney played the title role in *Romeo and Juliet* and the Dauphin in last year's *Henry V*.

*Member of Actor's Equity Association

Karen Kurzbuch is currently working toward her BA in acting at the UH School of Theatre and was most recently seen as Birdie in Travis Baker's *Sommerset over Field*.

Bob McNelis has appeared on many Houston stages including *Chocolate Bayou*, *Stages*, *Country Playhouse*, and *Theatre Suburbia*, among others, in productions that include *Pacific Overtures*, *1776*, *Rumors*, *Noises Off*, and *Hollywood/Ukraine*.

Humberto Adrian Perez is a Spanish major and a theatre minor at UH.

James R. Pittman is currently studying theatre at the UH School of Theatre and is a member of the Houston Masterworks Chorus.

Bev Raney was a member of Vanderbilt University's "Original Cast." He is continuing his study of theatre at the UH School of Theatre.

Traci Lynn Shannon graduated with a BA from the UH School of Theatre, where she appeared in *Scapino!* and *Twelfth Night*. She has also appeared with Main Street Theatre and Express Theatre.

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Amy Dudley Smith* (Production Stage Manager)

During the past season, Amy Smith was the production stage manager for Stages Repertory Theatre. Her credits there include *Rock and Betty Dance*, *Reckless*, *Gift of the Maji*, *Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery*, *Sight Unseen*, *Music from Down the Hill*, and *Frida and Diego*, with last season's productions including *Swingin' on a Star*, *Jeffrey*, *Hotel Oubliette*, and *Mirandolina*. She has also been involved with several productions for Early Stages. In addition to stage management, she has performed duties in the areas of lighting, sound, and scenic artistry for the Berkshire Theatre Festival, The Virginia Stage Company, and Penn State Center Stage Theatre. Some of her productions with these companies included *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Real Thing*, *Trains*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Arms and the Man*, *George M.*, and *Broadway Bound*.

Kenneth Atwater (Technical Director)

As staff technical director for the UH School of Theatre, Ken Atwater has planned scenery construction for the Wortham Theatre and Festivals Company for the past eight seasons. His work has previously been seen in Houston at Stages Repertory

Theatre and the Alley Theatre, and in California at San Jose Repertory Co., California Actors Theatre, University of Santa Clara, and Cinna-West Productions. Mr. Atwater holds a BA in drama from the University of California-Irvine.

Shawn Evan Gresser (Production Coordinator)

This is Mr. Gresser's second season with HSE. He has been an assistant stage manager for the Houston Grand Opera for the past three seasons and will assume the role of principal stage manager for the 1994-95 season. Recent credits include *The Outcast*, *La Traviata*, *Street Scene*, and *Elektra*.

Susan J. Roman (Assistant Vocal Coach)

Ms. Roman received her MA from the UH School of Theatre in 1989 and for the last three years has been studying voice and dialects. As part of her training, she attended a month-long voice/text workshop with Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, Massachusetts, and will attend the London School of Speech and Drama voice/text summer workshop at the University of Southern Illinois. She has worked on various theatre productions with the UH School of Theatre, and this is her second year as assistant vocal coach with HSE.

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KUHF 88.7 FM celebrates the world-class talent and dedication that distinguish local arts organizations such as the Houston Shakespeare Festival and proudly serves as media sponsor for this outstanding event. KUHF is committed to bringing regional as well as national exposure to Houston's arts organizations. Through the medium of sound, KUHF is supporting Houston's rightful place, prominent in the national arena for outstanding contributions to the visual and performing arts.

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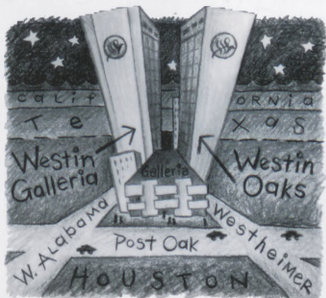
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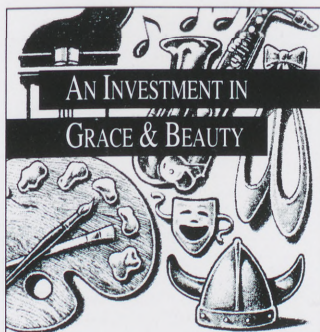
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