

**Steven Breese** has enjoyed a national and international acting/directing career that has spanned more than 20 years. An active member of AEA, SAG and AFTRA, he holds his MFA from California Institute of the Arts and served as Director of the Acting Program at Texas Christian University from 1992-1998. Dallas audiences will remember Mr. Breese from his appearances at The Shakespeare Festival of Dallas (Oberon/*Midsummer Night's Dream*), Ft. Worth Shakespeare in the Park (Petruccio/*Taming of the Shrew*), Dallas Theatre Center (*South Pacific*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Christmas Carol*), Casa Manana (Tito Merelli/*Lend Me a Tenor*, *42nd Street*), and Stage West (John Proctor /*The Crucible*). Other nationally recognized theaters at which Mr. Breese has either acted or directed include: South Coast Repertory (Costa Mesa, CA), Cleveland Playhouse (Cleveland, OH), Chanhassen Theaters (Minneapolis, MN), Sherwood Shakespeare Festival (Ventura, CA), American Heartland Theatre (Kansas City, MO), Forum Theatre (Chicago, IL), The Royal George Theatre (Chicago, IL), Watertower Theatre (Dallas, TX), The Operettenhaus (Hamburg, Germany), as well as other regional theaters and touring companies. Some of Mr. Breese's most prominent roles include: Rum-Tum-Tugger in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats*, Brick/*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, John/*Oleanna*, Milo Tindle/*Sleuth*, Dracula/*Dracula*, Billy Bishop/*Billy Bishop Goes to War*, and Rev. David Lee/*The Foreigner*.

Some of his most interesting directing assignments include: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *1940's Radio Hour*, *Communicating Doors* (Alan Ayckbourn), *The Diviners*, *Under Milk Wood* (Dylan Thomas), *The Lion in Winter*, *Company* (Sondheim) and *Working* (Studs Terkle).

Mr. Breese is a prolific and published playwright with more than 30 plays to his credit. Plays currently in publication include, *Character Assassinations* and *Doubletake*. In addition to *Brotherly Love* (a romance, premiered at Raven Theater/Chicago, 1998), Mr. Breese has recently completed a new one-act, *What You Will*. In 1998-99 he was commissioned by The Shakespeare Festival of Dallas to write/direct a new work based on Shakespeare's sonnets entitled, *Devouring Time*. Recent and developing works include *The Trial of Hamlet* (a classical courtroom drama) and *Gesualdo* (an original musical created in collaboration with composer, Blaise Ferrandino).

Mr. Breese was chosen to direct the first Russian tour of *The Fantastiks*. Summer of '99 he directed the critically acclaimed *Romeo and Juliet* for The Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. Fall of '99 he sailed around the world with the internationally renowned Semester at Sea Program sponsored by the Institute for Shipboard Education at the University of Pittsburgh.

Ports of call included Kobe Japan, Hong Kong, Ho Chi Minh City, Istanbul, Madras and Casablanca. Mr. Breese is currently the Director of Theater at Christopher Newport University.