

## Dynasty actor talks of role

Jean Collins (Alexis) gets her come-uppance in a murder trial scene in a new episode of "Dynasty" at the hands of a Shakespearian actor who has played on Broadway with the late Richard Burton.

As Michael Cunningham, prosecuting attorney, Jeff Pomerantz is "the guy who makes Alexis fess up to society, the guy who takes her to task."

"It's a wonderful role," said Pomerantz, in Clearwater recently attending classes at the Church of Scientology. "It is rare that as a guest star you play an epochal and strong man. Very often, guest stars play wishy-washy and ineffective people."

His Hollywood casting director Barbara Claman, said it is a role which will catapult Pomerantz to stardom. "Overnight, you'll be like Tom Selleck," she predicted.

Pomerantz planned it that way. Not the specific role, but when he left Clearwater for Los Angeles a few months ago, he programmed himself for something big and positive to happen.

And it did. Pomerantz said he did not have to go knocking on doors. "In this case the casting people phoned me."

Pomerantz went to the audition, read for the producer and director of the show, and got the part.

He worked on the Dynasty set until the cast broke for a vacation, then returned to finish the episode. And during that time, he got to know some wonderful people.

"Linda Evans is a lady, a fabulous lady. Spirituality is a large part of her life. She's a clean, beautiful person."

"And John Forsythe is a real pro," Pomerantz said, "a gentleman. He does very good, solid work, and to a large degree, he's the cornerstone of the show."

Although Pomerantz and Jean Collins both attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, it was at different times and they did not meet.

His comments on Ms. Collins, the most loved-hated woman in America, were limited. "Jean is a



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force to be reckoned with." He did say that his best off-camera speech during the murder trial scene was done to Ms. Collins, with the camera focused away from the prosecutor and on Alexis and her reactions.

Pomerantz bestowed on the Dynasty cast the highest accolade a Shakespearian actor could offer. "From the people within the Dynasty cast, you could do an entire Shakespeare production. It is not always that you find so many trained and talented people in one series."

Not only the actors impressed Pomerantz. The crew came in for its share of praise. "They are thoroughly professional. There's no greater joy than working with people who do their job well

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and enjoy it. My experience says that kind of spirit starts from the top and emanates down."

For Dynasty, the top is Elaine Rich, producer, and Gwen Arber, the director.

Pomerantz, who works 12 hours a day his entire time on Dynasty, and loves it, attributes much of his productivity to Scientology, which has allowed him to be "very productive and make fewer mistakes and errors."

He has also learned how to be observant. "To be on a set and spot and find out why a situation is not working optimally, helped me understand things that in prior situations would have caved me in."

A starring role in a movie that never came out left Pomerantz with a lasting impression and a zeal to do something about it. The director and people behind the scenes were doing so many drugs they could not put the movie together, Pomerantz said.

"This is why I'm so vehemently against drugs."

To contribute to the movie industry he loves and to "make people's lives a little better," Pomerantz has an idea he thinks will work. He wants to have people from the craft unions sign a bond stating they do not use drugs or drink, take the list to producers and tell them with these people they won't lose production time. Then with the time

and dollars saved, the industry would be able to help those who are having difficulties with drugs and alcohol.

Pomerantz is interested in making things work for others and for himself. "I want to play characters who are causative and effective and create positive change," he said.

He may be able to do just that. He has his eye on a movie to be made in November, the starring role in Battlefield Earth, from the two-volume science fiction saga by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard. Pomerantz would play "Johnny Good Boy Tyler."

Pomerantz has been a respected actor in theater, television and film for the last 10 years. In New York, he starred for four years on the ABC-TV series, "One Life to Live," and appeared in numerous plays on and off Broadway. He has appeared in the New York Shakespeare Festival, notably with the Circle Repertory Company as guest artist in "Fifth of July." His special love is Shakespeare, and John Houseman singled out his recent performance in "Richard II" as outstanding.

Pomerantz lives in Los Angeles and guest stars regularly on such shows as Magnum P.I., Quincy, Fame and Remington Steele.

He has just finished a TV movie, "City Killer," with Heather Locklear and Gerald McRaney. Pomerantz plays McRaney's partner in the movie, which will air on TV sometime this fall.