

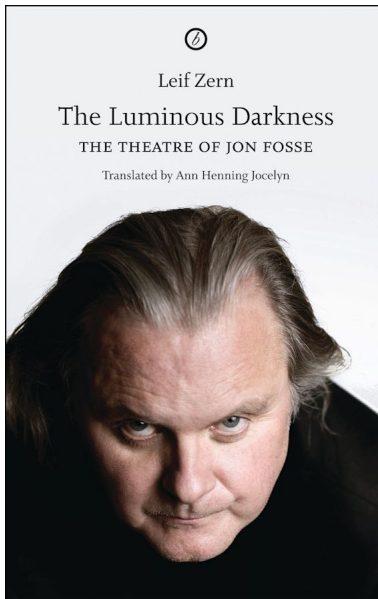
Leif Zern

The Luminous Darkness. On Jon Fosse's Theatre

Det lysande mørket - om Jon Fosses dramatikk

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When Jon Fosse had his playwright debut with *And We Shall Never Part* at the National Theatre in Bergen in 1994, he was already an established author of several novels, collections of poetry and children's books. Since his breakthrough in 1996 with the world premiere of *Someone Is Going to Come* at the Norwegian Theatre he has written over twenty more plays and has become the world's most performed contemporary European playwright. Oberon Books published, in 2011, *Nightsongs*, *The Girl on the Sofa* and *I Am the Wind*, together with his other plays in five collections. Fosse was made a Chevalier of the Ordre national du Mérite of France in 2007 and received The International Ibsen Award in 2010.



"Since the early 1990s, Jon Fosse's plays have been produced in countless venues internationally, and have been translated into dozens of languages – winning awards, inspiring critical adulation, and intriguing and inspiring theatregoers throughout the world. Strangely, however, his work remains largely unknown to English-speaking audiences – an oversight that Leif Zern's *The Luminous Darkness* will do much to redress. In twelve short chapters, the book explores Fosse's career, offering a lucid and insightful argument that is enriched by Zern's intimate knowledge of the plays in production. The result is an important and timely study of a playwright who demands and deserves our attention."

Patrick Lonergan, National University of Ireland, Galway



Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Leif Zern (b. 1939) is one of Sweden's most prominent theatre and literary critics, currently at the daily *Dagens Nyheter*. He previously worked for the daily *Expressen*, where he was also manager between 1982 and 1993. Zern has published a series of studies on, among others, Ingmar Bergman, Shakespeare and Jon Fosse.

Foreign sales

English (Oberon Books), French (L'Arche), German (Epodium Verlag A. Backoefer), Italian (Teatrino Dei Fondi/Titivillus), Polish (Agencja Dramatu i Teatru "ADIT"), Swedish (Bokförlaget Faethon)

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