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INVENTION & REINVENTION

2019
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FRANKENSTEIN

BY MARY SHELLEY
ADAPTED BY QUINN MATTFELD
OCTOBER 11 - 20, 2019 PASANT THEATRE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

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FRANKENSTEIN

By **Mary Shelley**, adapted by **Quinn Mattfeld**

Directed By
Ryan Patrick Welsh

Assistant Director
Sarah Wietecha

Costume Design	Hair/Makeup Design	Scenic Design	Props Master
Ketura Le'Audrey	**Chantel Booker**	**Michael Gault**	**Brandon Barker**

Lighting Design	Sound Design	Stage Manager	Dramaturg
Rachel Lauren	**Jason Painter Price**	**Shelby Eppich**	**Margo Skornia**

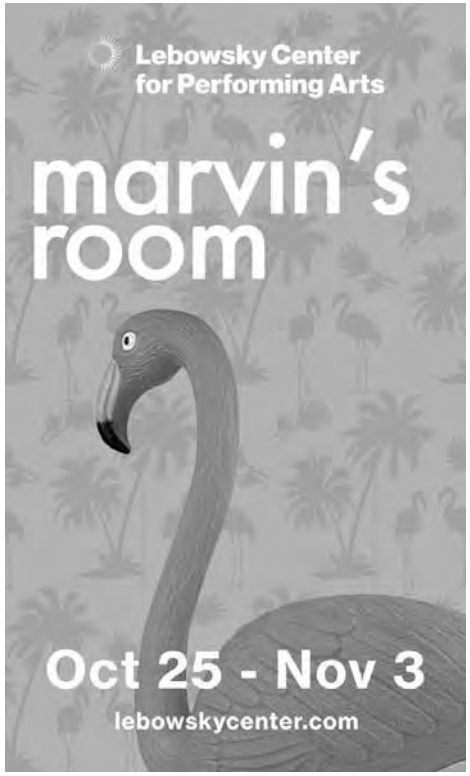
Cast

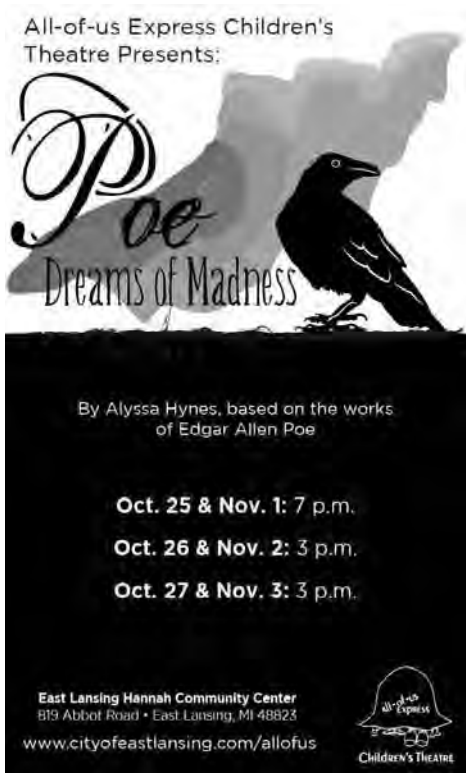
Victor Frankenstein	**Cameron Michael Chase*^**
Creature	**Abbie Cathcart***
Elizabeth	**Darah Donaher***
De Lacey	**Cassie Verral**
Henry	**Marshall Ross**
Mary	**Leah Bauer**
Professor Waldmann	**Mack Marshall**
Professor Krempe	**Harley Harris**
Agatha/Ensemble	**Abbey Nash**
Felix/Ensemble	**Vaughn Xavier Haynes**
Grace/Ensemble	**Rosie Rufe**
Gravedigger 1/Ensemble	**Eric Balamucki**
Gravedigger 2/Ensemble	**Michala Peltz**
Police Inspector/Ensemble	**Marko Stanojevic**
Victor's Mother/Ensemble	**Samantha Campbell**
Earnest/Ensemble	**Cole Dzubak**

*Master of Fine Arts Candidate
^Appears by permission of Actors Equity Association,
the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

For the performances on Sunday, October 13, and Wednesday, October 16, the part of Agatha will be played by **Taylor Mueller**.

The show runs approximately 2 hours, with one 10-minute intermission.





Director's Note

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* has haunted readers for just over two hundred years, has seen countless adaptations, and yet still somehow resonates with audiences today. When I first began my work on Quinn Mattfeld's lyric adaptation of this classic tale, I started with the question, "What about this story keeps me up at night?" Being that we are now inundated with gruesome imagery in film and television, the idea of seeing an undead creature wreak havoc on its creator may not pack the punch it did in the days before *The Walking Dead*. For my part, I realized that as unsettling as the concept of a reanimated corpse actually is, that it isn't the point of this story, and I don't imagine it ever was. What kept me up with this was the blind ambition of the titular character: working with no thought to the consequences of his actions, the dangerous and unforgiving obsession embedded in the feud between creator and creation, and finally the trauma inflicted upon the "person" from whom the Creature was made. Our society is taking an important hard look at trauma—how we deal with it, how we treat it, how we care for those who have experienced it—and this show does not hold back or attempt to minimize the impact of the wrongs experienced at the hands of others. At one point, the Creature expresses to us that life is pain - what she might well have asked is "why was I created only to be subjected to loss, injury, and pain beyond measure?" My hope with this production is that we have peeled back the curtain to peer at the fears and desires that lurk in the shadows of our souls.

— Ryan Patrick Welsh

Dramaturg's note

After suffering the death of her firstborn child, author Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley retreated to the Swiss mountains with her husband, Percy Shelley, and Romantic poet Lord Byron. There, trapped in their cabin by "incessant rain," the collection of authors read dozens of German ghost stories. At Byron's suggestion, each tried to write his or her own ghost story. For days, Shelley labored over the task, unable to think of anything. Finally, late on a June night in 1816, she was struck by a "waking dream," a vision of a "pale student of unhallowed arts kneeling beside the thing he had put together." Shelley continued, "I saw the hideous phantasm of a man stretched out, and then, on the working of some powerful engine, show signs of life, and stir with an uneasy, half vital motion. Frightful must it be; for supremely frightful would be the effect of any human endeavor to mock the stupendous mechanism of the Creator of the world." Two years later, the English public, too, would be gripped by Shelley's vision. Today, *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus*, is considered by some to be the first true science fiction novel. Quinn Mattfeld's new adaptation honors the horror of Shelley's original and weaves in the rich language of Shakespeare, breathing a new, dramatic life into the beloved work. The threads of isolation, guilt, secrecy, and revenge sing as strongly onstage today as they did in the pages of *Frankenstein* over 200 years ago.

—Margo Skornia

Frankenstein was commissioned by and first performed at the Southwest Shakespeare Company in Phoenix, AZ on Oct 26th, 2018.

When Entering The Theatre

Please turn off cell phones, mobile devices, alarm watches and anything that makes noise. The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

Please Note

This performance will have graphic simulated violence, disturbing imagery, and sexual content. The use of haze, strobe, and a prop gun will also appear in this performance. See a box office associate for more information.

Special Events

Director Pre-Show Discussion on Sunday, October 13, 2019 @ 1:15pm
Post-Show Discussion on Thursday, October 17, 2019
(Following the performance)

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Technical Director	**Mark Willoughby**
Production Manager	**Laura Scales Ashlock**
Costume Shop Supervisor	**Angie Wendelberger**
Scene Shop Supervisor	**Levi Galloway**
Fight Directors	**Heather Mahoney**
Intimacy Director	**Alexis Black**
Assistant Stage Managers	**Josh Cassady, Munirah Dickerson, Maya Kleinsorge**
Assistant Costume Design	**Chantel Booker**
Assistant Lighting Design	**Daniel Jaworski**
Assistant Sound Design	**Griffin Irish***
Paint Charge	**T'nia Burse**
Master Electrician	**Griffin Irish***
Master Carpenters	**Marc White, Adam Ashlock**
Sound Engineer	**Marc White**
Lighting Board Operator	**Paige King**
Sound Board Operator	**Maddy Moylan**
Deck Crew Chief	**Heather Mahoney**
Costume Crew Chief	**Claire Ryan**
Makeup Crew Chief	**Anna Ryzenga**
Costume Shop Technicians	**Grace Foiles*, Zech Saenz*, Cami Ernst, Ketura Le'Audrey, Gabi Martin, Eli Drake, Chantel Booker**
Scene Shop	**Jenna Gove*, Rose Legge*, T'nia Burse Brandon Barker, Michael Gault, Gab Mack, Cole Dzubak, Eli Drake, Emma Kolakowski, Maris Keller, Collin Schy, Kristian Brucaj Cole Dzubak, Wes Maskill**
Crew	**Students of THR 111**
Fiscal Officer	**Sherry Stevens**
Photographer	**Charles Benoit**
Publicity	**Abbie Tykocki**
Program	**Brian de Vries**

*Master of Fine Arts Candidate

Faculty Mentors

Costume, Hair, & Makeup Design	**Karen Kangas-Preston**
Scenic Design and Properties	**Ranae Selmeyer**
Lighting Design	**Shannon Schweitzer**
Stage Management	**Tina Newhauser**
Dramaturgy	**Dan Smith**

Who's Who In The Cast & Crew

ERIC BALAMUCKI *(Gravedigger One/ Ensemble)* Warren, MI; Senior, BFA Acting. Eric would like to dedicate this performance not only to Frankenstein, but also to Dracula and *Alien vs. Predator 2*. I Love you mom, Ej, Daniel, and anyone else who could make it!

BRANDON BARKER *(Props Master)* Sterling Heights, MI; Senior, BFA Design. Brandon is very excited for his senior year! He is looking forward to graduation, though he is anxious for what the future holds. Brandon will be designing the set for *Into the Woods* this season, an opportunity he greatly appreciates. He would like to thank all of the MSU THR professors and faculty, as well as his friends and family, for all the encouragement and support they have provided over the last three years.

LEAH BAUER *(Mary)* Ann Arbor, MI; Senior BFA Acting Major, Arabic Minor. Leah was most recently seen in MSU's productions of *The Bacchae* (Chorus) and *Men on Boats* (Sumner). She would like to thank Ryan for making rehearsals a graveyard smash, Alexis Black for giving her life, and Michael, for always hanging around.

CHANTEL BOOKER (*Hair/Makeup Design, Assistant Costume Design*) Detroit, MI; Senior BFA Apparel and Textile Design, Theatre Minor, Graphic Design Minor. Chantel is very excited to begin her final year at MSU! She most recently designed *Dames at Sea* (Costumes) for Summer Circle Theatre. She is extremely grateful for MSU ATD & MSU THR faculty for their encouraging advice and she would like to thank her mother, family, and friends for their love and support.

T'NIA BURSE *(Paint Charge)* Marquette, MI; Senior BFA Design. T'nia is excited to share her final work at MSU as upon graduation in December she will be relocating to Tucson, Arizona. As always, she would like to thank her family for their support and her ROOMMATES for being the best little family she ever could have imagined. Finally, she wants the friends she has made over the past three years to know how grateful she is and that she will be missing them immensely.

SAMANTHA CAMPBELL *(Victor's Mother/ Ensemble)* Fenton, MI; Sophomore BFA Acting Major, Musical Theatre Minor. Samantha was most recently seen in *Number the Stars* and in After School Special Improv. She is a co-founder of Second Stage Musical Theatre and is excited for this school year! She is grateful to be a part of this talented cast, and would like to thank her loving friends and family for always being by her side.

JOSH CASSADY *(Assistant Stage Manager)* Grand Rapids, MI; Senior, BA Theatre, BA Economics, Musical Theatre Minor. Most recently seen on stage in the Department of Theatre's production of *One Good Day*, Josh has begun undertaking more backstage roles, such as assistant stage manager/ dance captain of *Oklahoma!* and now as assistant stage manager of *Frankenstein.* He would like to thank his friends, family, and everybody else who has helped him along the way.

ABBIE CATHCART *(Creature)* Starkville, MS; Second-year MFA Acting Candidate. Abbie's MSU credits include *The Bacchae* (Agave) and *Men on Boats* (Old Shady). She was a resident ensemble member at Commonweal Theatre Company for two years before beginning grad school and holds a BFA in Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi. Many thanks to Ryan, Cameron, Darah and her brilliant grad cohort. And of course, Mary Shelley, for keeping it creepy.

CAMERON MICHAEL CHASE (*Victor Frankenstein*) Madison, WI; Second-year MFA Acting Candidate. Some of Cameron Michael's most recent MSU credits include *A Memory of Two Mondays* (Kenneth), *One Man, Two Guvnors* (Stanley Stubbors), *Dames at Sea* (Lucky) and more. For eight years, he has worked for the Walt Disney Company, performing around the globe in places like Alaska, Colombia, and Japan. Thanks to Ryan, Abbie, Darah, and the graduate cohort. Cameron Michael is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. @CameronMichaelChase

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We would like to express our gratitude to the following friends who have generously supported the MSU Department of Theatre during the past year as we celebrated the 2017 Friends of Theatre Gala and 57 years of Summer Circle Theatre. If we have inadvertently left your name off this list, please accept our apologies and contact us so that we may make the correction. This list is current as of 09/01/2019.

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Who's Who In The Cast & Crew

MUNIRAH DICKERSON *(Assistant Stage Manager)* Lincoln Park, MI; Senior BA Theatre. Munirah has previously worked as the Stage Manager on the Second Stage production of *Number the Stars* and on the MSU Department of Theatre's production of *Oklahoma!* as one of the assistant stage managers**.** She is very excited to work on her second mainstage show and would like to thank her mom, family, and friends for their encouragement and support.

DARAH DONAHER (*Elizabeth*) Bethlehem, PA; Second-year MFA Acting Candidate. Darah was most recently seen in Summer Circle's 59th season in *One Man, Two Guvnors* (Rachel), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Miss Prism), and *Dames at Sea* (Joan). She received her BA in Theatre from Penn State University (keeping her education in the Big 10). Many thanks to the cast, crew, and production team of *Frankenstein*! And to the #1 cohort, especially Abbie and Cameron, thank you for the love, trust, and play!

COLE DZUBAK *(Earnest/Ensemble)* Mattawan, MI; Sophomore, BFA Acting, BA Communications. Cole is excited to make his Michigan State main stage debut in this production of *Frankenstein*! He was most recently seen working backstage for *Oklahoma!,* and as one of the Assistant Stage Managers for *The Bacchae.* He would like to thank his friends, family, and professors for their endless love & support.

SHELBY EPPICH *(Stage Manager)* Warren, MI; Senior, BFA Stage Management. Shelby just spent her summer in New York City interning with the nonprofit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, helping stage manage their summer fundraiser Broadway Bares! She is sad that this is her last main stage show here at MSU but has been so grateful for the process and all she has learned. She wants to thank her friends and family for handling all the laughter and tears. And a big thank you to Tina Newhauser, for changing her life forever.

MICHAEL GAULT *(Scenic Designer)* Warren, MI; Senior, BFA Design, Fiction Film Minor. Michael was most recently a props master at Stagedoor Manor this summer, working on 41 shows including, *Titanic, Blood Brothers, and Head over Heels.* His latest design at MSU was *A Wrinkle in Time*. He is so thankful to have such a super creative production team, supportive friends and family. And thank you to the hilarious, loving, life-changing human beings Michael is lucky enough to call his roommates.

HARLEY HARRIS *(Professor Krempe)* Austin, TX; Sophomore, BFA Acting, Film Studies Minor. Harley is extremely excited to be a part of *Frankenstein*! He was most recently an Assistant Stage Manager for *The Bacchae.* He is also a member of After School Special Improv. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support.

VAUGHN XAVIER HAYNES (*Felix*) Port Huron, MI; Sophomore, BA Theatre, BA English/Creative Writing, Minor Linguistics. Vaughn was most recently seen in *Oklahoma!* (Slim) and *Number the Stars* (Papa Johansen). He also directed a production of *Legally Blonde* over the summer in Port Huron. He would like to send love and gratitude to his amazing friends, family, and mentors for all their support.

DANIEL JAWORSKI *(Assistant Lighting Designer)* Sterling Heights, MI; Junior, BFA Design. Daniel's most recent design work includes MSU's *Wrinkle in Time,* which won him a Thespie award from The Lansing State Journal, and La Musica Lirica's *Opera Scenes.* He is excited to be working on three shows this upcoming year including *Frankenstein, Twelfth Night,* and *Marian or The True Tale of Robin Hood.*

MAYA KLEINSORGE *(Assistant Stage Manager)* Gaylord, MI; Senior, BFA Creative Advertising, Minor Theater, Minor Arts and Cultural Management. Maya has just finished her summer in Peterborough, New Hampshire working as the Company Manager and House Manager for the regional theater Peterborough Players. She is excited to be working on her first main stage show at MSU! She wants to thank her friends and parents for their kindness and support!

Who's Who In The Cast & Crew

RACHEL LAUREN (*Lighting Designer*) Sterling Heights, MI; Senior BFA Design, Arts and Cultural Management Minor. Rachel most recently spent "A Summer in Ohio" at the Ohio Light Opera working as an electrician for their 41st festival season. Her latest design at MSU was for *Oklahoma!* (lighting and media) last spring. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Fenix for their continued support throughout her last year of undergrad!

KETURA LE'AUDREY *(Costume Designer)* Sterling Heights, MI; Senior, BFA Costume Design. Ketura is excited to start her senior year with the *Frankenstein* team! In addition to her stitching work at the Black Hills Playhouse in South Dakota, her most recent designs include *The Bacchae* (Hair/Makeup) and *Hairspray!* (Costumes). She is incredibly thankful for the love and support from her family, roommates, and the MSU faculty.

MACK MARSHALL *(Professor Waldmann)* Hartland, MI; Senior, BFA Acting, BS Materials Science and Engineering. She was most recently seen in the staged reading of *Pulp Vérité* (Lesley). She is excited to combine her love of science and theatre in this role and wants to send thanks to her family and friends for their support!

EAMON MORIARTY *(Assistant Props Designer)* Dearborn Heights, MI; Sophomore, BFA Design. Eamon is excited to be a part of such an intriguing show and cannot wait for audiences to see the finished product. He would like to thank his parents for believing in him and encouraging him to do what he loves most.

TAYLOR MUELLER *(Swing, u/s Agatha)* Romeo, MI; Senior, BFA Acting, BA Supply Chain Management, Musical Theatre Minor. Taylor was most recently seen in *Phases,* a devised piece written with other MSU theatre students and performed at The American University of Sharjah, and in *One Good Day* (Kat). She is very excited to be part of this production and her first play! She sends tons of thanks to her parents, sisters, friends, Grammy, and Andrew.

ABBEY NASH *(Agatha)* Berkley, MI; Sophomore BFA Acting, Arts and Cultural Management Minor, Women's Studies Minor. Abbey is incredibly excited to be in her first main stage production of *Frankenstein* and was most recently seen in *Pulp Vérité* (Jamie) and *Number the Stars* (Giraffe). She would like to send a million thank-yous to her friends, family, JH, as well as the incredible cast and crew.

MICHALA PELTZ *(Gravedigger Two/ Ensemble)* Cleveland, OH; Senior BFA Acting, Musical Theatre Minor. Michala was most recently seen in *Pulp Vérité* (Robin Messa) and *Number the Stars* (Mrs. Rosen). She is excited to come back to the main stage for this production of Frankenstein. Michala would like to thank her family, friends, and roommates for all the constant support. Congrats to the cast and crew.

MARSHALL ROSS *(Henry Clerval)* Beverly Hills, MI; Junior BFA Acting. Marshall was most recently a part of the 2019 Summer Circle Theatre season in *One Man, Two Guvnors* (Alan), *Comic Timing* (Felix), and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Lane). He is so glad to have worked on this fantastic production and hopes you enjoy the show!

ROSIE RUFE *(Grace)* Plymouth, MI; Sophomore, BA Theatre, BA English, Secondary Education. Rosie was most recently seen in the 2018 Freshman Showcase Improv Show. She is super excited to be a part of *Frankenstein* and would like to thank her parents, friends, Monica, and Alex for all their love and support!

MARGO SKORNIA (*Dramaturg*) Grand Rapids, MI; Fourth-year, BA Theatre, BA Chinese. Margo has most recently served as dramaturg for *A Wrinkle in Time* and *The Miller Plays*. She is currently serving as co-producer and head of story for *Haunted Aud*. She is grateful to her director, company, and the Department of Theatre. She wishes to send her love and thanks to her family.

MARKO STANOJEVIC *(Police Inspector/ Ensemble)* Warren, MI; Junior BFA Acting/ Musical Theatre Minor. Marko is very excited to be a part of *Frankenstein* this fall! Marko was most recently seen in *The Bacchae* (Maenad/Tiresias Understudy), *One Good Day* (Ensemble), and *Thus With A Kiss I Die* (Roger). He would love to thank all his friends and family for their support.

CASSIE VERRAL *(De Lacey)* Howell, MI; Junior BFA Acting major. Previously seen in *Framing Device* (Coat Check Artist), *Thus With A Kiss I Die* (Sheriff's Deputy), *Twelve Angry Jurors* (Juror Eleven), and *Sorry Wrong Number* (Operator Two). She was assistant director on that same production of *Thus With A Kiss I Die*, and for the Department's *A Wrinkle in Time*. Cassie is very grateful for this opportunity, hopes you enjoy the show, and looks forward to performing for you again in the future!

SARAH WIETECHA (Assistant Director) Grosse Pointe Woods, MI; Junior, BA Theatre, BA Arts and Humanities, Arts and Cultural Management Minor. Sarah was most recently seen in Ixion Theatre Ensemble's *The Wolves* (#25) and the Second Stage production *Number the Stars* (Soldier). She is very excited to be working on her first mainstage show and would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support.

PEPPERMINT CREEK
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Bright Star
Music, Book & Story by
Steve Martin & Edie Brickell
Sept. 19 - 22 & 26 - 29, 2019
The Humans
by Stephen Karam
Oct. 31 - Nov. 3 & 7 - 10, 2019
Gloria
by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
Jan. 16 - 19 & 23 - 26, 2020
Cost of Living
by Martyna Majok
March 19 - 22 & 26 - 29, 2020
Fun Home
Music, Book & Story by
Lisa Kron, Jeanine Tesori, Alison Bechdel
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A Christmas Carol: The Radio Show
by David Alberts
November 21 - December 22, 2019
900 Miles to International Falls
by Annie Martin
January 30 - March 1, 2020
These Mortal Hosts
by Eric Coble
March 26 - April 26, 2020
Alabaster
by Audrey Cefaly
May 21 - June 21, 2020
Be Here Now
by Deborah Zoe Laufer
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