

prime
stage

THEATRE CO

FRANKENSTEIN

NOVEMBER 4 — 13, 2022

At the New Hazlett Center for Performing arts



Dear Patrons,

Welcome to Prime Stage Theatre as we begin our 26th season of suspense, hope, and wonder with **Frankenstein**. This script was originally scheduled to open on November 6, 2020, and we're excited to **bring it to you now!**

Working with the playwright, Lawrence C. Connolly, and learning about Mary Shelley's book has been a great experience for the board and staff. Most people think that Frankenstein is the creature but, in the book, Frankenstein is the surname of the main character of the scientist who creates the creature. If you haven't read the book, please do so after seeing our production.

Prime Stage produces more than Theatre – we want to make every production a unique experience with our post-show discussions. On November 5th you can meet Lawrence C. Connolly, the playwright of Frankenstein and on November 12th we have a special guest, Ryan O'Shea from Pittsburgh Robotics Network.

We are grateful for those who support Prime Stage's productions and programs. Your generosity helps us as a cultural and educational asset to our region. Your individual support helps to keep our productions accessible, of the highest quality, and our educational outreach programs affordable.

Thank you for being an important patron of Prime Stage Theatre. We look forward to seeing you at the theatre.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martha".

Martha Trombold, President
Prime Stage Board of Directors

YOU CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE BY DONATING OR BECOMING A SPONSOR.

Your financial support will enable Prime Stage Theatre to inspire the imagination as we Bring Literature to Life!

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Prime Stage Theatre

Presents

FRANKENSTEIN

*Based on Mary Shelley's Novel
Adapted by Lawrence C. Connolly*

Directed by Liam Macik

Featuring

*Carolyn Jerz
Maddie Kocur
Andrew Lesnett
Everett Lowe
Michael McBurney
Isaac Miller
David Nackman
Stacia Paglieri
Adam Seligson
Suzanne Ward*

Production Manager

Kate Pieratt-Webb

Technical Director

Alex Barnhart

Scenic Designer

Tucker Topel

Lighting Designer

Hope Debelius

Sound Designer

Mark Whitehead

Costume Designer

Madeline Macek

Prop Designer

Carly Trimble-Long

Fight Director

Michael R. Petyak

Stage Manager

Britt Kolek

Assistant Stage Manager

Alex Hamm

Originally commissioned and first produced by Prime Stage Theatre, Pittsburgh, PA.

FRANKENSTEIN

A storm rages. Five friends take shelter in a Swiss mansion. One of them is eighteen-year-old Mary Shelley. Before the night is over, you will see her conceive one of the most horrifying and suspenseful stories ever written – the tale of a man who created life and became a monster.

THE CAST

In Alphabetical Order

Safie/Servant.....	Carolyn Jerz
Claire Claremont/Justin Moritz.....	Maddie Kocur
Felix Delancy/Ensemble.....	Andrew Lesnett
The Creature.....	Everett Lowe
Lord Byron/Robert Walton.....	Michael McBurney
Percy Shelley/Victor Frankenstein.....	Isaac Miller
M. Delancy/Ensemble.....	David Nackman
Mary Godwin Shelley/Elizabeth Lavenza.....	Stacia Paglieri
John Polidori/Henry Clerval.....	Adam Seligson
Ghost of Caroline Frankenstein/Anna.....	Suzanne Ward

Setting: A mansion in Geneva, early-19th century.

Run Time: Approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes and one intermission

ARTISTIC AND DESIGN STAFF

Director.....	Liam Macik
Producing Artistic Director.....	Wayne Brinda, Ed.D.
Production Manager.....	Kate Pieratt-Webb
Technical Director.....	Alex Barnhart
Scenic Designer.....	Tucker Topel
Lighting Designer.....	Hope Debelius
Sound Designer.....	Mark Whitehead
Costume Designer.....	Madeline Macek
Prop Designer.....	Carly Trimble-Long
Scenic Artist.....	Hannah Elizabeth Kosela
Stage Manager.....	Britt Kolek
Assistant Stage Manager/Wardrobe.....	Alex Hamm
Production Assistant.....	Hayden Bingham
Fight Director & Intimacy Coordinator.....	Michael R. Petyak
Master Electrician and Light Board Operator.....	Madeline Barber
Crew.....	Brooke Echnat
Sound Board Operator.....	Staff from the New Hazlett Theater
Box Office Coordinator.....	Nathan Wagner



Please note: The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phone, beepers, and watches.

THEATRE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Lawrence C. Connolly
Natalie Flango
Beth Lawry
Michael Montgomery
Lauren Scheller-Wolf
Matt Zerdin
Little Green Bookstore
Point Park Production Students and Costume Shop
Shaler Northland Library
The New Hazlett Staff & Ushers
Prime Stage Staff and Volunteer

thank you!

PRIME STAGE AND NATHAN RUGGLES RECEIVED THE ACB AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN AUDIO DESCRIPTION



ACCESSIBILITY



AUDIO DESCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

Second Saturday of each production with On-Stage Pre-Show, Actor Voice ID, and/or Touch Tour at 1:30 PM, Audio Pre-Show at 2:15 PM, and Performance at 2:30PM

Audio Description (or AD) helps to make visual imagery accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired. Visual elements can include costumes, sets, and character appearances, along with action, gestures, facial expressions, and other visually important images. It's used to enhance understanding and enjoyment of live performance.

This equipment was made available to the community thanks to the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council through a grant from the Allegheny Regional Asset District.



ASL SIGNED INTERPRETED PERFORMANCE

Second Sunday of each production at 2:30 PM. We are pleased to offer American Sign Language interpreted performances with two certified interpreters, Heather Gray and Jennifer Flaggs. We also encourage students studying sign language to attend for observation.

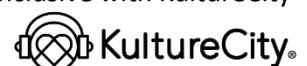


SENSORY INCLUSIVE PERFORMANCE

Second Saturday of each production at 2:30 PM. Our Sensory Inclusive Performance is a family experience. We provide a social story with pre-theater preparatory activities for the person with a sensory, social, or learning disability so the person begins to understand and anticipate what might happen at a performing arts experience.

For all performances, our patrons have access to Sensory bags that are designed to assist the needs of both adults and children. The bags are filled with items that may help lessen sensory overload and engage. The bag items are also easily cleaned and sterilized for multiple uses.

Prime Stage Theatre staff is certified for Sensory Inclusive with KultureCity



UP NEXT AT CITY THEATRE

NOV. 26 – DEC. 18, 2022

Newly acquainted Orthodox Jews, Esther and Schmulik, have entered into an arranged marriage. Author Abe and movie star Julia have entered into a secret, flirtatious correspondence without their spouses' knowledge. Swiveling between 1970s and present day, *The Wanderers* is a funny and mysterious new drama that puts a magnifying glass on the complications of love across generations and what it means to be happy.

THE WANDERERS



BY
**ANNA
ZIEGLER**

DIRECTED BY
**COLETTE
ROBERT**

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by Nathan Wagner

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DRAQUULA

MUSIC BY PHILIP FEENEY

Presale

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Benedum Center

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PBT.ORG

\$13 off with promo code:
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This special is not valid for zone 5.

PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 16, 2022
10AM-5PM
DAVID L. LAWRENCE
CONVENTION CENTER
FREE TO THE PUBLIC

SEE WHY PITTSBURGH IS THE ROBOTICS CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

Join the Pittsburgh Robotics Network for Discovery Day, a first-of-its-kind opportunity to see firsthand what makes Pittsburgh the Robotics Capital of the World. Learn about life-changing robotics and artificial intelligence technologies being developed in our own backyard, career pathways and ways to get involved.

All are welcome.

Learn more at robopgh.org/discoveryday



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**ROBOTS
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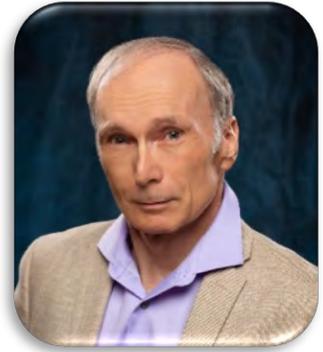
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**ROBOTS THAT WANT
TO BE YOUR FRIEND!**

PLAYWRIGHT

Lawrence C. Connolly (Playwright) Lawrence is a noted novelist in the horror world, some of Lawrence C. Connolly's books include the *Veins Cycle novels: Veins, Vipers, and Vortex*. He has also been featured in top magazines and anthologies of fantasy, horror, and science fiction. His screenplay *This Way to Egress*, co-authored with director David Slade (executive producer of *American Gods*), is featured in the anthology film *Nightmare Cinema*, currently streaming on AMC and Shudder. He also writes and produces the Prime Stage Mystery Theatre podcast.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Mary Shelley's novel is about creation and how the fruits of our ambitions can take on lives of their own. In the novel, Victor is surprised when his artificial man turns out different than expected. Something similar happens with Mary and her novel. In both instances, the creation moves beyond the creator's control. In Mary's case, she is surprised by the reception her novel receives. Indeed, she concludes the introduction of *Frankenstein's* second edition by writing, "And now, once again, I bid my hideous progeny go forth and prosper." In my adaptation, we present Shelley's story alongside Victor's. The result, I hope, shows how one is an apt metaphor for the other.

Frankenstein is as much the story of a writer who met with unexpected success as it is about a scientist who experiences tragic failure. What sets the two apart is that Mary Shelley stood by her creation while Victor disowned his. The upshot: It's good to dream big, but we must be willing to own the results of those dreams once they take on lives of their own.

Despite its expansiveness, the novel reveals almost nothing about Victor's experiments, and so everyone who has ever adapted the novel to stage or screen has had free reign to envision a creation scene. That said, there are two details that suggest an element of Victor's work that is passed over in most adaptations. The first is the novel's subtitle — "A Modern Prometheus," which references the story of Prometheus plasticator, who created and animated mankind out of lifeless matter. The second occurs in Chapter 4 of the novel, when Victor—after having spent years gathering body parts from graves and charnel houses—decides that "as the minuteness of the parts formed a great hindrance to my speed, I resolved, contrary to my first intention, to make the being of a gigantic stature, that is to say, about eight feet in height, and proportionably large." Thus, like a Prometheus plasticator, he makes the creature from scratch. The result is not a lumbering brute with a reanimated brain, but a whole new species that has the potential to replace mankind. With that in mind, the resulting conflict is ever more relevant in light of recent scientific advancements.

DIRECTOR

Liam Macik (Director) Liam is a Pittsburgh native and graduate of Mount Lebanon High School. He received his B.A. in Theatre Arts from Catawba College in Salisbury, NC. Liam served as the founding Artistic Director of Throughline Theatre Company for seven years, where his directing credits include productions of *Judgement at Nuremberg*, *Oedipus Rex*, and *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*. In 2005 Liam received the Peterson Award for Emerging Playwrights for his play, *Bastards and Fools*, and in 2019 Liam wrote and directed a new adaptation of *The Scarlet Letter* for Prime Stage. Earlier this year, Liam directed Prime Stage's production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. In addition to playwriting and directing, Liam is an established stage actor, most recently appearing as Lenny in *Of Mice and Men* at Prime Stage, and previously as David Sarnoff in *The Farnsworth Invention* and Beverly Weston in *August: Osage County*, both at Throughline Theatre.



MEET THE DIRECTOR AND CAST OF **FRANKENSTEIN**



Liam Macik, Director



Everett Lowe



Carolyn Jerz



Maddie Kocur



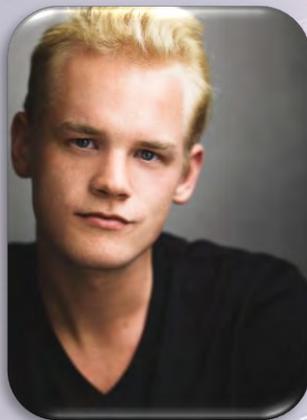
Andrew Lesnett



Stacia Paglieri



Michael McBurney



Isaac Miller



David Nackman



Adam Seligson



Suzanne Ward

ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Carolyn Jerz (Safie and Servant) Carolyn is happy to return to Prime Stage, where she's played Viola in *Twelfth Night* and Cherry Valance in *The Outsiders*. Carolyn's credits include: Front Porch (*Grand Hotel*); PICT (*Jane Eyre*; *Merchant of Venice*; *Oliver Twist*; *Great Expectations*; & *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll*); St. Vincent Summer Theatre (*Beauty & the Beast*); PPT's "Bard in Bloom" Showcase; Theatre Factory (*Luisa/The Fantasticks*); UnRehearsed Shakespeare (*Tempest*; *Merry Wives*; *A Comedy of Errors*); Heritage Players (*Hermia/A Midsummer Night's Dream*); Geyer PAC (*Margot/Bright Star*; *Maggie/A Chorus Line*; *Winnifred/Mattress*; *Amy/Little Women*; *Dani/Dani Girl*; & *Mary Warren/The Crucible*); and choreography for Stage Right's *Joseph/Dreamcoat*, for the Geyer's *Once Upon a Mattress*, and for the workshop debut of *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (in which she played Jane Bradbury). Carolyn studies musical theater and dance/choreography at Seton Hill, where she just performed the Lead Player in *Pippin*.

Maddie Kocur (Claire Claremont and Justine Moritz) Maddie is thrilled to be making her return to the stage with Prime Stage Theatre! She hails from Seton Hill University with a BFA in Musical Theatre ('20). Some of her college theatre credits include Roxie in *Chicago*, Joanne in *Company*, and The Seagull in *The Seagull*. She has also performed as Wendy Jo (u/s Rusty) in *Footloose* at Keystone State MT and Time in *Everybody* at 12 Peers Theatre. Many thanks to the fantastic cast and crew of *Frankenstein* for working so hard to put on this monster of a show! Much love to all of her family, friends, and coaches for their unwavering support!

Andrew Lesnett (Felix Delacey, Young Sailor, and Servant) Andrew is thrilled to be making his prime stage debut! He is a recent graduate of Point Park University with a BA in Theatre Arts: performance and practice. He would like to thank his friends and family as well as the amazing cast and crew who have made this such an incredible experience.

Everett Lowe (The Creature) Everett is thrilled to be working with Prime Stage once again—particularly on such an original adaptation of Shelley's enduring classic. Everett last appeared on their stage as Hawthorne in *The Scarlet Letter*, as Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, and previously in their productions of *The Great Gatsby*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *A Lesson Before Dying*. A performance theater graduate of Geneva College and Pittsburgh native, Everett has been privileged to work with several theater companies and festivals around the city, including PICT Classic Theatre, 12 Peers Theatre, No Name Players, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre, Throughline Theatre, The Summer Company, Pittsburgh Fringe Festival, Little Lake, Cup-A-Jo Productions (where he also serves as Managing Director), and many more. Many thanks to Liam, Wayne, and Connie, and to the cast and crew for this wonderful experience. Love always to my family and friends for their continual support. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Michael McBurney (Lord Byron and Robert Walton) Michael is so excited to be performing with Prime Stage again, having appeared earlier this year in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. He has performed previously with Bricolage in *Yinz'r Scrooged* and *Dodo*, and has worked with several other companies locally, including Throughline Theatre Company, Alarum Theatre, PICT, No Name Players, Carlow University Theatre Group, the Duquesne Red Masquers, and the Summer Company at Duquesne. He has also been involved with Arcade Comedy Theater as a performer and coach since 2014, and is so very happy that improv, and theatre in general, is starting to become more frequent again.

Isaac Miller (Percy Shelley and Victor Frankenstein) Isaac is a CMU School of Drama graduate and is thrilled for the opportunity to make his Prime Stage debut in his hometown of Pittsburgh. New York credits include *America's Favorite Newscaster* and *What Elsa's Knew in a Peril*. He has starred in shows such as *Beauty and the Beast*, *Ragtime* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Isaac is also a musician.

ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES

David Nackman (M. Delacey, the Constable, Liam, Old Sailor, and Servant) David was last seen at Prime Stage as multiple characters in *The White Rose*, and as Boris Karloff in the one-person show *Karloff*. Other local appearances include *Mamma Mia!* (Theatre Factory/Apple Hill Players), Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* (Theatre Factory), and Claudius in a forthcoming audio production of *Hamlet* (Food for Groundlings/Play on Words). Highlights from the previous four decades include regional and summer stock appearances, the first national tour of Neil Simon's *Biloxi Blues*, a stint on Broadway in Simon's *Broadway Bound* (with Joan Rivers), and 20 years as a director, improviser, and ensemble member at NYC's Castillo Theatre.

Stacia Paglieri (Mary Godwin Shelley and Elizabeth Lavenza) Stacia is delighted to be welcomed back to the Steel City with her debut at Prime Stage Theatre, after a four-year stint in NYC. Recent theatre credits include *As You Like It* and *All's Well That Ends Well* at Longmont Theatre Company, and *The House of Bernarda Alba* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Stacia has also performed various roles in film and TV, both in Pittsburgh and NYC. She has a BFA in Acting from Point Park University, with additional training from Heidi Marshall Studios NYC, the Squirrel Comedy Theatre NYC, and more. She's grateful to get to share a glimpse into this iconic author's world, and she'd like to thank her friends and family for their incredible support.

Adam Seligson (John Polidori and Henry Clerval) Adam is elated to be performing with Prime Stage once again, especially with such a lovely ensemble of people and with such a unique and wonderful story being told with this production! Recent credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* with Pittsburgh Savoyards, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Festival in *Black & White*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* with Prime Stage, *Company* with Riverfront Theatre Company, and *Into the Woods* with The Theatre Factory. Special thanks to Mr. Lawrence Connolly for sharing his creation with us and for all of his knowledge and insight throughout the process of our "bringing it to life", if you will.

Suzanne Ward (Ghost of Caroline Frankenstein and Anna) Suzanne is very grateful to be appearing in another stellar Prime Stage Theater production. Having the opportunity to appear as the *Ghost of Caroline Frankenstein/Anna* in Larry Connor's original stage play has been an honor for her. She has previously appeared as Martha Brewster in Prime Stage's production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and Pelican Players of Coraopolis in their rousing rendition of *The Drowsy Chaperone* as Mrs. Tottendale. Suzanne is exceptionally blessed to have her supportive family and friends giving her lift and inspiration.



Shelley described Frankenstein's monster as an 8-foot-tall, hideously ugly creation, with translucent yellowish skin pulled so taut over the body that it "barely disguised the workings of the arteries and muscles underneath," watery, glowing eyes, flowing black hair, black lips, and prominent white teeth

— **Mary Shelley, Frankenstein**

ARTISTIC AND DESIGN STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Hope Debelius (Lighting Designer) Hope is a Pittsburgh based lighting designer and recent graduate of Point Park University's Conservatory of Performing Arts. Recent design credits include: *A View From the Bridge* with Throughline Theatre Company, *Cowboy Vs. Samurai* at Bristol Valley Theater, *The Amazing Lemonade Girl* at Prime Stage Theatre, The Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Preprofessional Showcase, The Fall Dance Concert and *Spring Awakening* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. She is so excited to be working with Prime Stage again and would like to thank her friends and family for their support.

Alex Hamm (Assistant Stage Manager) Alex currently attends Point Park University, working toward a B.F.A. in Theatre Production with a concentration in Stage Management. She is excited to continue working with Prime Stage Theatre and appreciates the experience. Some of her favorite credits include *The White Rose* (Prime Stage Theater), *Eurydice* (Bridges Theatre Company), *Kings of Delancey Lane* (Bridges Theatre Company), *Curtains* (Pittsburgh Playhouse), and *Everybody* (Pittsburgh Playhouse). She extends gratitude and appreciation to her parents, family, and lovely friends for always being supportive and beyond encouraging.

Britt Kolek (Stage Manager) Britt is a graduate of the University of Mount Union (OH) where she earned bachelor's degrees in Theatre and English. She has previously worked with Prime Stage as the Assistant Stage Manager for *A Wrinkle in Time* and Stage Manager for *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She is thrilled to be back as their resident Stage Manager and working with an incredible cast and a wonderful company that brings her loves of literature and theatre together. When she is not stage managing, she is creating her own literary catalogue with several self-published books available at their website bekolek.weebly.com. She, as always, would like to thank her family and friends for their unconditional support.

Madeline Macek (Costume Designer) Maddie is a Costume Designer specializing in historical works. A born-and-raised Pittsburgher, she has previously designed at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Previously she worked as Costume Designer on *Spring Awakening* and *Everybody*. She is so excited to work on this production of *Frankenstein!* Madeline graduated from Point Park University in 2022. She would like to thank everyone who has mentored her, her family, and friends for their support, and her Mammaw for getting her started on this journey.

Michael R. Petyak (Fight Director/Intimacy Coordinator) Michael is extremely thankful to be welcomed back into the Prime Stage family for yet another great production. Holding a B.F.A. in Musical Theater (Magna Cum Laude) from Shenandoah University, Michael has performed, directed, and choreographed nationally for stage, television, and film. Some of his most notable credits include sword-fighting at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire & Powel Crosley Estate (Sarasota, FL), doubling the *Across the Universe* star Joe Anderson in the locally filmed television series *Outsiders*, as well as doubling Disney star Calum Worthy in *Replicate* on Netflix. He has done fight direction locally for Pittsburgh CLO, Quantum Theater, Pittsburgh City Theater, Kinetic Theater, Prime Stage, Little Lake Theater, and numerous high schools in the Greater Pittsburgh Area. Michael has taught master classes in stage combat/stunts at the University of Pittsburgh, Point Park University, Carnegie Mellon University, Westminster College, and Steeltown Entertainment Project (WQED). He has also stunt coordinated films such as *Juniper & Lamplight*, *Secret Santa*, and *Child Warfare* and assisted numerous fight masters in the entertainment industry. Michael is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA, AEA, & IATSE. He would like to thank Kate Pieratt-Webb, Liam Macik, and Tina Cerny for welcoming him back to Prime Stage, as well as for Connie and Wayne Brinda for their confidence in his fight direction abilities throughout the years.

"Learn from me, if not by my precepts, at least by my example, how dangerous is the acquirement of knowledge, and how much happier that man is who believes his native town to be his world, than he who aspires to become greater than his nature will allow."

— **Mary Shelley, Frankenstein**

ARTISTIC AND DESIGN STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Kate Pieratt-Webb (Production Manager) Kate holds a degree in Dramatic Arts and History from Centre College and a MBA in Sports, Arts, and Entertainment Management from Point Park University. She has worked with various theatre companies in Pittsburgh and around the country including Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre, Front Porch Theatricals, Playhouse on the Square (Memphis, TN), and Actors Guild of Lexington (Lexington, KY). A few of her most memorable productions include *Caroline, or Change*, *The Curious Savage*, and Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Iron Horse Theatre Company in Ambridge, PA.

Tucker Topel (Scenic Designer) Tucker is currently based out of Pittsburgh, PA after growing up in the Southern Wisconsin area. He is an alum of Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. Currently working in and around the Greater Pittsburgh area with several companies such as Prime Stage Theatre, Point Park University, Mercyhurst University, Robert Morris University, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, off the WALL, and more. Tucker's most recent design credits include: *Not My Revolution* (off the WALL), *Spring Awakening* (Point Park University), *Meanwhile* (CSA @ New Hazlett Theater), *Saturday Night* (Mercyhurst University), and *Hoard* (off the WALL). www.tuckertopel.com

Carly Trimble-Long (Props Designer): Carly is a Pittsburgh based theater artist and Technical Director. She is happy to be working with Prime Stage in the position of Props Designer for this production. Her notable credits include Technical Director with Off The Wall for past productions such as *Hoard*; *What Kind of Woman* which is premiering in New York City on Off-Broadway this fall. Other past roles besides properties work are Technical Director at Pittsburgh Irish Classical Theater, Scenic Technician at Carnegie Mellon University, and Staff Carpenter at Utah Shakespeare Festival. Carly is an Alumni of the Conservatory of Performing Arts at Point Park University and holds a BFA in Technical Direction and Management.

Mark Whitehead (Sound Designer) Mark is the founder of Saints & Poets Theater, for which he produced and directed the world premiere of Christiane D's *Saffronia*, the Pittsburgh premieres of Sam Shepard's *The Late Henry Moss* and Donald Freed's *Secret Honor: The Last Testament of Richard M. Nixon*, and most recently the European premiere of August Wilson's *How I Learned What I Learned* at the 2022 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He was a member of timespace, for which he produced *hamletmachine*, and directed *4-H Club* and *Insignificance*. Additional directing credits include *Comfort Zone* and *The Revenants* for Pittsburgh Playwrights Theater (PPTCO), *Cry Havoc*, *Taking Sides*, *True West*, and *Fool for Love*. Mark is Resident Sound Designer for PPTCO, a post he has also held for The Unseam'd Shakespeare Company and The Jewish Theater of Pittsburgh, and has designed for Short North Stage in Columbus, OH, The Ensemble Theatre in Houston, TX, The St. Louis Black Repertory, and numerous Pittsburgh theaters. Internationally, Mark's sound was first heard in PPTCO's production of *Miss Julie*, *Clarissa and John* at the 2017 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Mark has won AACTA/Onyx awards for best sound design three years in a row for his work on PPTCO's annual August Wilson productions. He was named best sound designer and listed among the best directors in Pittsburgh City Paper's 2001 theater roundup and was named best sound designer of 2000 by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Mark was a founding producer of *The Dark Night Cabaret* performance series and has produced and directed music videos for several Pittsburgh bands.

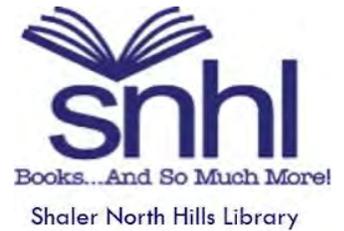


"You must create a female for me, with whom I can live in the interchange of those sympathies necessary for my being."

— Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR FRANKENSTEIN

If this play has piqued your interest, why not check out a book and explore more? Your public libraries have many online resources you can access from home. Check your library's website for help in getting started or use this handy link: [Your Library From Home](#).



For Younger Kids

Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich/Frankenstein Takes the Cake by Adam Rex

Author Rex entertains with poems and stories about Frankenstein (the monster) and his pals—Dracula, the Headless Horseman—and others. Full of jokes and puns.

Frankenstein Doesn't Wear Earmuffs by John Loren

A young trick-or-treater has the best Frankenstein costume ever...if he can make it out the front door! Every time he tries to set foot into the dark and stormy night, his overly concerned parents interrupt with yet another warm and cozy addition to his costume.

The Mixed-Up Monster by Ximena Hastings

An early reader where Hank, a Frankenstein monster, is tired of being a monster and wishes he was normal.

Frankenstein: A Monstrous Parody by Rick Walton

Do you remember the Madeline books? Then you won't want to miss this fun send-up of those classics, illustrations and all! Frankenstein is the scariest of all the monsters in Miss Devel's castle. He can frighten anything—animals, parents, even rocks. Until one night, Miss Devel wakes up and runs downstairs to find that Frankenstein has lost his head!

Learn More!

What is the Story of Frankenstein? by Sheila Keenan

Part of Who Was/What series, the author explores the origin of the Frankenstein story and the history of the movie versions.

The Woman Who Created Frankenstein: a Portrait of Mary Shelley

This is a biography of Mary Shelley, considered by many to be the woman who created the first 'science fiction' story!

Young Adult Fiction

This Monstrous Thing by Mackenzi Lee

A critically acclaimed retelling of the Frankenstein story. In an alternative fantasy world where some men are made from clockwork parts and carriages are steam powered, Alasdair Finch, a young mechanic, does the unthinkable after his brother dies: he uses clockwork pieces to bring Oliver back from the dead.

Jackaby by William Ritter

First in a series and with rave reviews, this tells the tale of Abigail Rook, the new assistant to investigator Jackaby. On her first day, Abigail finds herself in the midst of a thrilling case: A serial killer on the loose...and Jackaby is certain the foul deeds are the work of the kind of creature whose very existence is questioned.

Cadaver & Queen by Alisa Kwitney

Frankenstein meets Marissa Meyer's *Cinder* in this tightly paced historical thriller packed with secrets, betrayal, and steamy romance.

Young Adult Biography

Mary's Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley created Frankenstein by Lita Judge

Legend is correct that Mary Shelley began penning Frankenstein in answer to a dare to write a ghost story. What most people don't know, however, is that the seeds of her novel had been planted long before that night. By age nineteen, she had been disowned by her family, was living in scandal with a married man, and had lost her baby daughter just days after her birth.

Adult Fiction

Frankenstein in Baghdad by Ahmed Saadawi

From the rubble-strewn streets of U.S.-occupied Baghdad, Hadi--a scavenger and an oddball fixture at a local café--collects human body parts and stitches them together to create a corpse. His goal, he claims, is for the government to recognize the parts as people and to give them proper burial.

Oryx & Crake by Margaret Atwood

From the acclaimed author of *The Handmaid's Tale*, Atwood takes us on a journey through a world now devastated by powerful corporations involved in genetic manipulation.

Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe

Try a return to a 'classic' with one of the lasting myths in Western culture. The story of Faust tells of a learned German doctor who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for knowledge and power.

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? by Phillip K. Dick

Considered the source material for the movie *Bladerunner*, author Dick asks us to consider whether the creatures that man has created – in this case, androids – are capable of feeling empathy.

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<https://primestagetheatre.libsyn.com/>

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High School Drama Awards



Prime Stage is excited to present our 3rd Annual High School Drama Awards on April 24, 2023.

The Awards Ceremony will be presented on stage at the New Hazlett Theater Center for Performing Arts.

The drama awards recognize our area high school students in creating their non-musical productions, and shine a light on their accomplishments.

The participating schools this year are:

Avonworth, Carlynton, Deer Lakes, Fox Chapel North Allegheny, Penn Hills, Pine-Richland, Shady Side Academy, Thomas Jefferson.

Please consider making a donation to this important program. Every little bit will help to bring well-deserved recognition to our area students and their high schools.

www.primestage.com/support Drama Awards



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Prime Stage Theatre does. And every time we step on stage, we *do*.

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Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Each year GiveBig Pittsburgh and the Global Giving Tuesday initiative enables supporters of nonprofits around the world an opportunity to make a powerful statement to the cause closes to their hearts.

Prime Stage Theatre has a special **Giving** page were you can make an instant donation and support us. Please visit GiveBig on November 29th and help us as we begin our 26th year of Bringing Literature to Life on stage...



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Since 1996, Prime Stage Theatre has been making theatre that makes a difference.

- We've presented more than 90 Inspiring plays for audiences of all ages... plays that convey themes of empathy, hope and transformation.
- We've sponsored numerous outreach programs for students and teachers that show the power of theatre in stimulating new ways of thinking, learning and problem-solving.
- We Celebrate 26 years because of the unflagging efforts of our region, actors, directors, tech crew, staff, audiences. . . and our dedicated financial supporters like you.
- Through our website primestage.com you can support Prime Stage Theatre

We've enjoyed serving you and appreciate your support.

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PRIME STAGE THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The mission of Prime Stage is to entertain, inspire and enrich through professional theatre by bringing literature to life. Our vision is enriching lives through theatre and literacy with programs that delivers quantifiable results and benefits to the region.

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The Prime Stage Teen Advisory board is a group of young adults who are passionate about theatre and the arts, who have the desire to uphold the mission of Prime Stage, to serve and engage the Pittsburgh community, to connect to and encourage the minds of youth, and prioritize social relevance in the arts.

Mary Dalesio, Advisor

Sueanne Zoratto, Assistant Advisor

Maya Anabella, Piper Bozick, Madeline Dalesio, Jayden Greening, Simon Nigam, Grace Vensel

TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL

We believe that literacy and the theatre can lift people up, inspire opportunities, and present new ways of seeing the world in positive ways. Effective teachers help students connect literature to their own world. Students discover literature, enjoy reading and vicariously "live in" the literature. Talented artists bring stories from the pages to life by providing multi-sensory experiences. Our adaptations of literature and historical figures and programs are selected and produced to meet those goals

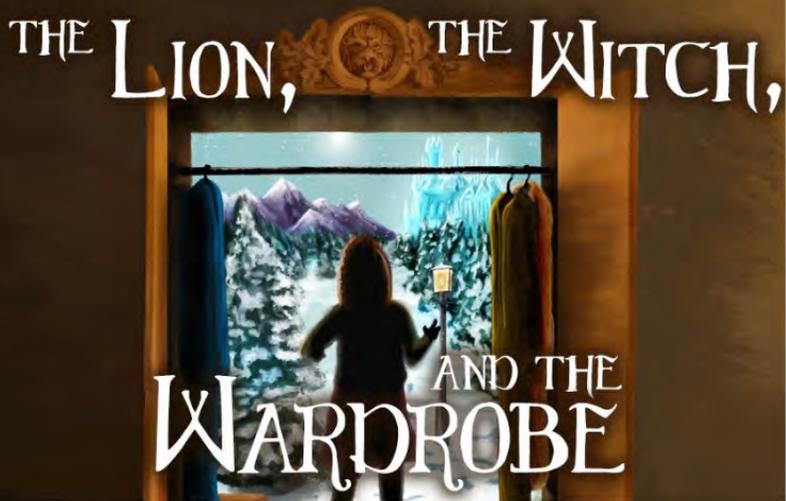
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March 3 - 12, 2023



May 5 - 14, 2023

Our Season's are designed to Entertain, Enspire, and Enrich the lives of individuals, families, students, and educators as we bring *Literature to Life!*



Prime Stage Sprouts brings literature to life for elementary students and their families, as we inspire their imaginations and foster a love of reading with the joy of live theatre.



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