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Spring 3-2000

## Frankenstein Program [2000]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre


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 University of Southern Maine  
*Department of Theatre presents*



by Mary Shelley  
adapted by Victor Gialanella  
directed by Kurt Ela

Friday, March 17 through Saturday, March 25

**Main Stage, Russell Hall**  
USM Gorham Campus

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I was given the opportunity to direct one of the Department's major productions, I immediately realized that the first challenge for any director is selecting a script. It wasn't until I was reminded of two stories that I have loved since childhood, *Dracula* and *Frankenstein*, that I made my choice. After reading many translations, and with help from the faculty, Victor Gialanella's adaptation of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* emerged as the most artistically stimulating choice, and I accepted it with open arms. Theatre is not simply comprised of a single component but is a collage of many: directing, acting, costuming, lighting, and scenic design, to name but a few. Every script challenges at least one of these elements, however, sometimes we find a story that expands the limits of every aspect of theatre. This is a play that creatively engages every designer, actor, technician and director. Hopefully the result will be as stimulating for you, our audience, as it was for us in its creation.

Thank you to all and enjoy.

Kurt Ela

## PORTLAND OPERA REPERTORY THEATRE

Bruce Hangen, Artistic and General Director



July 27, 29, 31, 2000  
Merrill Auditorium  
Portland, Maine

Information:  
P.O.R.T., PO Box 7733  
Portland, ME 04112  
(207) 767-0773

## FRANKENSTEIN

by Mary Shelley  
adapted by Victor Gialanella

Director  
Scenic Design  
Costume Design  
Lighting Design  
Sound Design

Kurt Ela  
Charles S. Kading  
Susan E. Picinich  
Joe Futral  
Kirstin Hayward

### Cast In order of appearance

Victor Frankenstein  
The Creature  
Peter Schmidt  
Heidi Metz  
Henry Clerval  
Elizabeth Lavenza  
Justine Moritz  
William Frankenstein  
Lionel Mueller  
Frau Mueller  
Alphonse Frankenstein  
DeLacey

Michael Thomas Toth  
Nathan Raleigh  
Steven Johnson  
Angela R. Lemire  
John Hildreth  
Kellys MacKilligan  
Tara A. Smith  
Matthew P. Curtis  
Daniel Richardson  
Kendra Elaine Maria  
Greg Strom  
Josh Chenard

*This show contains non-toxic chemical smoke,  
exceptional loudness, and violent situations.*

*Please, no photos are allowed during the performance.*

*Also please turn off beepers and phones as a courtesy to the actors and  
other audience members.*

Produced by special arrangement with  
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

## SETTING

1790's. Geneva, Switzerland.

### ACT I

Scene I - A graveyard. Evening.

Scene II - A sitting room of the chateau. Later that evening.

Scene III - The tower laboratory. That night.

Scene IV - A cottage. One week later.

Scene V - Outside the cottage. Three months later.

*There will be a fifteen minute intermission.*

### ACT II

Scene I - The grounds of the chateau. Two months later.

Scene II - The sitting room. Two hours later.

Scene III - The laboratory. One week later.

Scene IV - Elizabeth's bedroom. One year later.

Scene V - The laboratory. Immediately following.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO.....

Anne Gottlieb, for everything, Wil Kilroy, Minor Rootes, Maria Wark, Schoolhouse Arts Center and the Maine State Ballet, Chris Price, Maine State Music Theatre. The Producers wish to thank the TDF Costume Collection for its assistance in this production.

## ARTISTIC STAFF

Advisor  
Assistant Scenic Design  
Creature Makeup Design

William Steele  
Christopher M. Foss  
Alison Guinn

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Managers

Jillian Caton  
Michelle Leeman  
& Dave Frankenfeld

Technical Director  
Carpenters

Thomas C. Vail  
Stagecraft Lab, Kurt Ela,

Chris Foss, Kendra Maria, Matt Meeds, Bryon Wilson, Caleb Wilson  
Scenic Artist  
Assistant Scenic Artist  
Costume Shop Supervisor  
Stitchers

Alison Guinn  
Christopher M. Foss  
Kris Hall

Costuming Lab, Alicia Allen, Jessica Black,  
Elizabeth Chambers, Samantha Kinne  
Julianna Lagin-Nasse, Michelle Leeman,  
Aaron Lewis, Elsie Reese, Kristen Thomas

Electricians  
Properties Supervisor  
Properties Construction

Matthew Curtis, Kurt Ela, Lighting Practicum  
Ethan Hinton  
Aaron Lewis

## PRODUCTION CREW

Deck Crew  
Wardrobe  
Light Board Operator  
Sound Board Operator

Justin Lewis, Shannon Campbell  
Morgan Gould  
Elizabeth Chambers  
Zilpha Chouinard

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Arts Promotions Director  
Arts Events Director  
Administrative Assistant  
Box Office Manager  
House Manager  
Graphic Design

Mary Snell  
Emmanuelle Chaulet  
Lillian Campbell  
Catherine Johnson  
Amanda Poirier  
Leigh Raposo

## **CAST BIOGRAPHIES IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE**

### **Michael Thomas Toth - Victor Frankenstein**

Michael is a sophomore theatre major at USM from Gorham, NH. You may have seen him last in *Rest Stop* as the troubled road boy Neal at Oak Street Theatre. Next year, Michael will be studying abroad as a Rotary Scholar in Winchester, England. He would like to thank Kurt for all the energy and passion he put into this production.

### **Nathan Raleigh - The Creature**

Nathan is a theatre major from Pittsfield. This is his third appearance on the USM Mainstage. He has previously appeared as Cactus Charlie Coons in *Anasazi* and Officer Krupke in *West Side Story*. Other roles have included Nick in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Ira Stone in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* and Tim Algood in *Noises Off!* Nathan would like to thank Kurt for his patience and vision throughout, and wishes him well as he enters his professional career.

### **Steven Johnson - Peter Schmidt**

Steven Johnson is a sophomore theatre major and honored to be a part of *Frankenstein*. Previous roles include Glad Hand in *West Side Story* and Jeb in *Anasazi* for which he received the Irene Ryan Alternate Nomination. Steven would like to thank Kurt and Jill for this wonderful experience.

### **Angela R. Lemire - Heidi Metz**

Angela is a junior theatre major from Livermore Falls. Her previous roles include Peaseblossom in *a Midsummer Night's Dream* and daughter of Bob Crotchet in *Christmas is Coming Uptown*. She worked backstage for the one act plays, *Rest Stop* and *Fixin' Amos*, at Oak Street Theater.

### **John Hildreth - Henry Clerval**

John is a senior vocal performance major from Norfolk, VA. Previous roles at USM include Iron Dick in *Grannia*, John Tarleton in *Misalliance*, "Big Deal" in *West Side Story*, and Monastatos in *The Magic Flute*. He has also participated in SPA's *10 Minute Play Festival* and *Cabaret*. In April, he will be traveling to New York to play the Modern Major General in *Pirates of Penzance*.

### **Kelly MacKilligan - Elizabeth Lavenza**

Kelly is a sophomore theatre major from Kennebunk. She's been involved with USM productions including *Illuminati*, *Sure Thing*, *Dance USM!*, *Anasazi*, and *Sinners, Saints and Fools*. She recently completed an internship at the Arundel Barn Playhouse where she worked as a stage manager and danced in *Guys and Dolls*.

### **Tara A. Smith - Justine Moritz**

Tara is a first year theatre major from Millinocket. Her previous USM experience is the role of Karen Quirk in the SPA production of *75 Ways to Serve Grilled Squirrel*. Other roles include Dolly in *Hello Dolly*, and Susan Connors in *The Girl in the Mirror*. She would like to thank Kurt Ela for this opportunity and give special thanks to her family and to Arthur J. Walker for all their support.

### **Matthew P. Curtis - William Frankenstein**

Matthew is a junior from Rockland majoring in theatre and communications. William is the second Mainstage role for Curtis, who also performed in *West Side Story*. He has had roles in SPA shows such as *Illuminati* and *75 Ways to Serve Grilled Squirrel*. Matt would like to thank Kurt for all of his hard work.

### **Daniel Richardson - Lionel Mueller**

Daniel is a sophomore theatre major from Lincoln, Maine. He feels blessed to be a part of this classic and to be working with such an awesome cast and director, who are also great friends. Daniel has been performing since he was in 5th grade. He made his college stage debut as Pastor Roy in *Fixin' Amos*. He would like to thank his family for helping him return to USM.

### **Kendra Elaine Maria - Frau Mueller**

Kendra is a theatre major from Portland, Maine. Her previous roles at USM include Violet Drought in SPA's production, *75 Ways to Serve Grilled Squirrel*, and a Jet Girl in *West Side Story*. She would like to thank Kurt for his amazing dedication and positive energy. "Special thanks to those who have given me words of encouragement and inspiration."

### **Greg Strom - Alphonse Frankenstein**

Having concentrated his efforts on directing theatre at Fryeburg Academy, Greg is happy to get the opportunity to act again. Greg directed many shows at Fryeburg Academy, including *Joseph*, *Godspell*, and *Anything Goes*. He has also had roles in *Cabaret* and *Guys and Dolls*. He is especially pleased to have a former student (Kurt Ela) find that his theatrical talent has no boundaries - "You can make time for anything you want to do."

### **Josh Chenard - DeLacey**

Josh is a senior theatre major. At USM, he has performed numerous roles including Adam in *Rest Stop* and Vic in the American Premiere of Xavier Durringer's *A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue*. Some other local performances include Barnette Lloyd in *Crimes of the Heart* at City Theatre, John Smith in *Run for Your Wife* at Pine Tree Players, and Timothy James in a dinner theatre production of *Tammy Jo and Billy Bob's Wedding* for Renegade Productions. Josh currently teaches and directs at Thornton Academy in Saco.

## ARTISTIC STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

### Kurt Ela - Director

This is the final project for Kurt, who is a senior theatre major. His last directing job was in the fall of 1998, when he directed SPA's *...A Final Evening with the Illuminati*. He was last seen on stage playing the character of Shorty in *Anasazi*. Other favorite roles include; David in *To Gillian on her 37th Birthday*, Riff in *West Side Story*, for which he received an Irene Ryan Nomination, Paul in *The Danube*, Sebastian in *Twelfth Night*, and Bernard in *Death of a Salesman*. Technically, he has been helping with set building, painting and properties since he arrived at USM three years ago. He was also Master Electrician for the 1999 semester. Awards include; the Grannia and the Bronwyn Millard scholarships, semi-finalist for the Irene Ryan scholarship, and winner of Best Dramatical Actor and Best Supporting Actor in last year's SPA Award Show. He was the president of SPA for four semesters and helped in creating the first annual SPA Award Show. He would like to thank Jill, Michelle and David for their work and Bill for his support.

### Charles S. Kading - Scenic Designer

Charles has taught design and stagecraft at USM for 20 years. His professional credits include *Good Night Desdemona* (*Good Morning Juliet*), *Criminal Hearts*, and *Skylight* for Mad Horse Theatre; *Showboat*, *Chamberlain*, and *Blood Brothers* for Maine State Music Theatre; *Big River* and *Cabaret* for Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theater; and *Noises Off* and *Blithe Spirit* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He also worked extensively at The Alley Theater in Houston where his credits include the US premiere of Alan Ayckbourne's *Henceforward*. In addition, Charles has designed scenery for the Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Cabaret Repertory Theatre and Portland Stage. He is currently Chair of the Theatre Department.

### Susan E. Picinich - Costume Designer

Susan joined the USM Department of Theatre faculty in 1987 and has since designed costumes for 46 University productions. She has an MFA degree from the University of Michigan and previously taught at SUNY Albany and Western Illinois University. She is a member of the ensemble at Mad Horse Theatre and most recently designed their production of *Hamlet*. Other credits include seven seasons at Maine State Music Theatre: Most recently *Blood Brothers*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, and in 1998 the premiere of Maury Yeston's new musical *In the Beginning*. Susan costumed *Crazy For You* at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia in 1997.

### Joseph A. Futral - Lighting Designer

Joseph is glad to be returning to USM after a year away. At USM, he has lit *The Flies*, *As You Like It*, and *The Danube*. Elsewhere, his credits include the Off Broadway production of *Birth of the Boom* at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center in New York. He has also worked at Mad Horse Theatre, Portland Ballet and Maine State Ballet, Jomandi Productions, The Alliance Theatre, Lee Harper and Dancers, Moving in the Spirit and Louise Runyon Barth in Atlanta. He was staff lighting designer for the 1998 National Black Arts Festival, Augusta Ballet, in Augusta, GA, including *The Bitter Sweet Saga of Sugar Cane* and *Sweetie Pie* with the Wynton Marsalis Septet; Charleston Ballet Theatre in Charleston, SC; Great Lakes Theatre Festival in Cleveland, OH, and numerous corporate events and presentations for Saab, Georgia Pacific, Delta, AT&T, Nike, Puma, Yale University, and many other arts and commercial organizations. He has been lighting the stage for 15 years and considers his time spent assisting Thomas Skelton as his most productive education.

### Kirstin Hayward - Sound Designer

Kirstin is a freshman communication major and theatre minor from Bath. Previous experience at USM includes sound board operator for the student written one-acts, *Fixin' Amos* and *Rest Stop*. Awards include the National School Choral award in 1999. Special thanks to Andy Ross, who has taught me so much, and to Kurt for giving me this opportunity. Also special thanks to family and friends for believing in me.

### Thomas C. Vail - Technical Director

Tom was the Technical Director at USM for 4 years during the early 80's and designed sets for the Russell Square Players summer repertory theater. He has designed lights for Bill Chinook and Jonathan Edwards, and has worked professionally with the following local companies: Portland Stage Co. (master carpenter), The Children's Theatre of Maine (actor, set designer), Mad Horse Theatre Co. (tech director, set designer and actor), and last year he joined the local #114 Stagehand's Union. He also co-created the Oak Street Theater (now Theatre) in Portland in 1992 and the Sebago Lake Schoolhouse Arts Center. Other credits include his children: John, David, Christa, Jared and Daniel. Tom currently resides in Windham with his wife, Mari, and their above-mentioned children.

### Kris Hall - Costume Shop Supervisor

After 12 years of wandering, Kris Hall has returned to the Russell Hall Costume Shop. In the intervening time, she costumed at Mad Horse Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre, Maine Summer Dramatic Institute, Portland Stage, and The George Street Playhouse. She also earned a degree in Political Science.

**Christopher M. Foss - Assistant Scenic Designer**  
Chris is a senior theatre major at USM. His past designs at USM include *Fixin' Amos* and *Rest Stop*, *To Gillian on her 37th Birthday*, and *Illuminati*. He has worked with Mad Horse Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre, and Hopkins Center Productions in his hometown of Hanover, New Hampshire.

**Jillian Caton - Stage Manager**

Jillian is a sophomore theatre major. Previous experience at USM includes Assistant Stage Manager for *West Side Story* and *Anasazi* and a dresser for *Misalliance*. She has also worked on many SPA shows. She would like to thank Kurt for giving her the chance to do what she loves, and thanks the cast and crew for their patience and understanding.

# KC/ACTF XXXII

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival XXXII  
Presented and Produced by  
the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
Supported in Part by  
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund,  
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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF Regional Festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF National Festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 2000.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

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THE  
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SEASON!

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Hip, witty, and intriguing, this critically acclaimed Off-Broadway hit ingeniously explores the amusing inability of children to ever figure out their parents.
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This hilarious farce about a world famous tenor and his over-eager understudy will leave you teary-eyed with laughter.

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University of Southern Maine  
Department of Theatre

## 1999-2000 Theatre Season

*This season the USM Department of  
Theatre is proud to present several  
exciting original works.*

October 2-10 **GALA ARTS OPENING!**  
**Anasazi**

written and directed by Walter Stump

November 5-14

**Grannia**

written and directed by Thomas A. Power  
music by Larry "Flash" Allen

December 3-11

**STUDENT-WRITTEN ONE ACTS**

**Fixin' Amos**

by K.J. Carpenter, directed by Assunta Kent

**Rest Stop**

by Elias A. Bresnick,  
directed by Emmanuelle Chaulet  
*Oak Street Theatre*

February 11, 12, & 13

**Dance USM!**

**Annual Dance Concerts**

March 17-25

**Frankenstein**

by Mary Shelley, adapted by Victor Gialenella  
directed by Kurt Ela

April 21-30

**The Imaginary Invalid**

by Molière  
directed by Minor Rootes

Unless otherwise noted, all shows at the  
Main Stage, Russell Hall,  
USM Gorham campus

Tuesday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday performances, 5:00 p.m.,

Grannia's November 14 performance, 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 general public, \$9 seniors,  
\$5 students/USM faculty/staff.

Grannia: \$12 gen., \$9 seniors/USM faculty/staff

For reservations and information  
or access inquiries, call

**780-5151**

*Consider purchasing a season ticket.*

University of Southern Maine

University of Southern Maine  
Department of Music

## 1999-2000 Faculty Concert Series

October 1

**GALA ARTS OPENING!**

**Lawrence Golan and  
Martin Perry**

*violin and piano*

Sponsored by ARAMARK

October 29

**Scott Reeves's**

**Jazz Compositions**

Scott Reeves, *trombone*  
with James Williams, *piano*, Bill Mobley, *trumpet*,  
John Lockwood, *bass*, Bob Gullotti, *drums*

Sponsored by Key Bank

November 19

**Laura Kargul**

*solo pianist*

Sponsored by Filene's

February 4

**Schubert's Die Winterreise**

Bruce Fithian, *tenor* and

Judith Hunt Quimby, *piano*

Sponsored by Tucker Anthony

March 10

**Neil Boyer and Friends**

*Featuring the oboe in ensemble music*

Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank

April 21

**William Rounds**

*solo cello*

Sponsored by PIP Printing

8:00 p.m. Fridays,

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**Tickets**

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University of Southern Maine