

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the world of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. Two hundred years ago, an 18-year-old Shelley created one of the greatest Gothic novels ever written. This event explores not only the novel's influences, but its impact on other cultural works since its conception in 1818. We have brought to life the novel's protagonists, characters from Shelley's life, and historical figures and events which were instrumental in Shelley's realisation of *Frankenstein*. Travel through the Arctic where Walton first encountered Victor, explore the lab where the monster was born and step inside the Villa Diodati where the novel originated. Be ready to put aside your vision of a staggering green monster and think afresh about this story of enlightenment, scientific exploration and morality.



## SCARY LITTLE GIRLS

We are joined by acting troupe Scary Little Girls, who have created a number of special performances for the evening. The programme is peppered with characters inspired by the book, tucked away in our Gothic Garret and Lab. We also have not just one, but two Mary Shelleys. Meet our wandering Mary with her portable picnic, sharing readings from her and Percy's poems, as well as letters from her inspirational mother, Mary Wollstonecraft. Our second Mary is compèring our evening, so roll up roll up for a night compèred beyond compare! She knows her Shelley, she's all about the Romantics and she's bringing you the power of nature with an urban twist. All eyes on her for what's on, where to find it and hot tips throughout the night!

## WRIST BANDS

Your wrist band allows you access to two areas of the event at specific times, listed on the next page under 'special performances'. If you miss your scheduled slot, you will not be admitted into these rooms.

## SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

These times are scheduled for each group. If you miss your scheduled time, you will not be admitted to these rooms.



### THE ANATOMIST'S THEATRE

**Frankenstein beatboxing**  
19:00– 19:40

Watch beatboxers from the Battersea Arts Centre's BAC Beatbox Academy as they perform a section of their latest show *Frankenstein* based on Shelley's classic thriller. The beatboxers will offer a modern retelling using nothing but their mouths to present a poetic and political interpretation inspired by Shelley's original monstrous tale of power and persecution.

### THE MOVIE MASH

**Frankenstein and film**  
19:50-20:10, 20:20-20:40, 20:50-21:10; 21:20-21:40

*Frankenstein* on screen goes way beyond Boris Karloff. See the iconic 1931 creation scene with live accompaniment, and afterwards join Dr Sarah Artt (Edinburgh Napier University) for an introduction to some of *Frankenstein's* more unusual on-screen mutations. A must for fans of dodgy science and messed up gender politics.

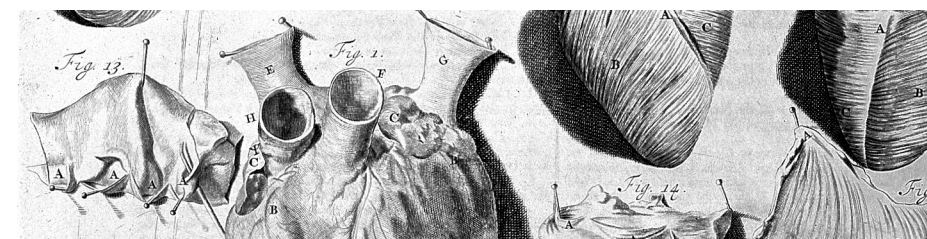
### THE GOTHIC GARRET

**Ghost stories by candlelight**  
19:50-20:10, 20:20-20:40, 20:50-21:10; 21:20-21:40

As the 'Prof of Goth' Professor Nick Groom (University of Exeter) explains in his new edition of *Frankenstein*, the novel was inspired by a challenge among a dissolute group of Romantic writers to compose a ghost story during a stay in Switzerland, as electrical storms thundered across Lake Geneva. Join Nick and our storyteller, Dr Naomi Paxton, as they recreate that fateful night with a specially commissioned delight of dark humour by LH Trevail exploring the twin worlds of Gothic horror and suffrage campaigning.

## TERRIFYING TALKS

The lab and villa are on a repeating schedule running for 20 minutes on a first-come, first-served basis.



### THE LAB

19:50-20:10, 20:20-20:40, 20:50-21:10; 21:20-21:40

#### Operating in the 19th century

In 1822 a stage version of *Frankenstein* coincided with theatre of a different kind: the establishment of a female operating theatre in one of London's oldest hospitals. This unique insight into the horrors of the time survives to this day. Join the staff from the Old Operating Theatre Museum and discover that fact is more terrifying than a work of fiction.

#### Victoria Frankenstein

Meet Victor's pregnant sister and her assistant Igor in this performative gender-hack of Shelley's male protagonist, brought to you by our actors in residence Scary Little Girls. Learn about the patriarchal oppression of women's bodies during the 19th century and explore an alternate universe where the mad male scientist becomes female.

### THE VILLA

19:50-20:10, 20:20-20:40, 20:50-21:10; 21:20-21:40

#### Vampire slaying

Take a look at a real vampire slaying kit in this handling talk with Dr Sam George (University of Hertfordshire). Dating from the time of British vampirologist, Montague Summers (1880–1948), these kits were owned by a number of families and were popular on the stage in vampire theatricals. They contained a crucifix, Bible, holy water, wooden stakes and a mallet together with the 1851 edition of the book of common prayer.

#### The spark of life

What is it that makes meat animate, and brought Frankenstein's monster to life? Join Dr Antonio Cataldo and Dr Eoin Travers (Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, UCL), and learn how electrical impulses from the brain set the body in motion. With some shocking hands-on demonstrations.

## POP-UP WORKSHOPS

Look for this symbol 🧑🏻 on the room layout to find where the pop-up workshops are.

### The Vortex

Just how frightening is *Frankenstein*? We invite you to read pages of Mary Shelley's novel while your biometric measurements are analysed in real time. Afterwards, Romantic expert Professor Richard Marggraf Turley and electronic systems design engineer Dr Peter Todd (Aberystwyth University) will discuss your measurements with you. Suitable for 12 years to the undead.

### The smell of fear

Like other animals we communicate our emotions by smell. Through subtle chemosignals humans can detect and be affected by the smell of fear. Join Professor Barry Smith (School of Advanced Study, University of London) as he experiments with your ability to distinguish the odour of fear from that of excitement.

### A curious essence

Wear a 200-year-old fragrance, recreated from its original parts. The fashion in dress, hair and cosmetics was for a natural effect. Out with the wigs, in with the locks. Shed the heavy, embroidered silks and float in soft, light muslin. Smell delightfully of fresh flowers, citrus fruits, whale vomit and goat glands.

### Shelley's creation

Dr Anna Mercer invites you to peruse the original manuscript. See how her partner Percy Bysshe Shelley suggested changes to her work in an act of collaboration, discover how Mary Shelley assisted in the construction of his literary works, and have a go at using ink and quill pens to begin your own masterpiece.

### Monstrous comics

Join artists and scripters from Dundee Comics Creative Space for some monstrous comic-making. Marvel at Norrie Millar's striking artwork from our comic *Frankenstein Begins*. Recoil in horror as we turn you and your loved ones into Frankenstein's Monster. Gasp as we help you to bring your own Frankenstein-inspired ideas to life.

### Build a monster

Pretend you are Victor Frankenstein and build your own monster at our creation station. Talk to the digital humanities team from the School of Advanced Study and learn about the latest developments in 3D printing and AI. Play with a robot creation and learn about assembling a new creature from 3D printed body-scanned composites.