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MORTAL FOOLS Brings *FRANKENSTEIN* To Life
Featuring Faculty From BYU and UVU,
October 17 – 31, 2009

Mortal Fools Theatre Project is a new ensemble-based theatre company in Provo featuring faculty from BYU, UVU and other Utah valley actors. Their first production is an adaptation of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* by Tim Kelly. The play, directed by Jennifer Reed, runs October 17 through 31, 2009 (half-price preview performance October 15) at the Provo Theatre, 105 East 100 North, Provo, UT. Press Opening performances are Saturday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Monday, October 19 at 2 p.m. **To purchase tickets, visit ProvoStage.org.**

The tale of Frankenstein has been reinvented countless times by the film and stage, but Tim Kelly's script returns to the original book by Mary Shelley. Audiences will delight in Halloween terror as we follow the creation of Victor's monster from the collected body parts of the graveyard to its ultimate demise. While suitable for teenagers and adults, this production is not recommended for children younger than 12 years old for thematic content and staging.

The role of Victor Frankenstein will be played by BYU's **David Morgan** with **Ward Wright** playing The Creature. UVU's own **Chris Clark** joins the cast as Victor's best friend and accomplice Henry. Also featured are **Annadee Morgan** (Elizabeth), **Nancy Candrian** (Frau Frankenstein), **Matthew Carlin** (Ernst) along with **Rachel Baird** (Sophie) and **Becca Ingram** (Justine), both acting students attending BYU.

MFTP Resident Artists: David Morgan, Ward Wright*, Chris Clark, Annadee Morgan, Jennifer Reed*, Nat Reed, Dave Mortensen**

**Founding Member*

Performance Schedule/Events

The preview performance is Thursday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m. *Frankenstein* opens on Saturday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. and then runs October 19, 22-24, 26-31 at 7:30 p.m. with a special midnight showing on Halloween night. The show will run approximately 100 minutes.

PRESS INFORMATION

Publicity/Production photos will be available at www.ProvoStage.org/pressinformation.

BUYING TICKETS

Tickets are \$12 general admission (Monday – Saturday). Preview tickets are \$6. Student/Senior discount is \$2 off the regular ticket price with a valid ID. Advanced purchase is recommended as performances may sell out. To purchase tickets **visit ProvoStage.org.**

AUDIENCE RESOURCES

Cast information, updates from the playwright and director, and special video previews will be available on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/mortalfools>.

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

This production of *Frankenstein* is produced in association with Bluelight Stage LLC.

LOCATION/TRANSPORTATION/PARKING/ACCESSIBILITY

The production will be housed in the Provo Theater, located at 105 East 100 North, just one block east of University Avenue and one block north of Center Street in Provo. Parking is available on the surrounding streets. There are two flights of stairs between the theater space and the street; an elevator is available.

PRODUCTION STAFF

The production staff for *Frankenstein* includes **Jennifer Reed** (Director/Producer), **Amy Cloud** (Stage Manager), **Landen Gates** (Costume Design), **Josh Gubler** (Lighting Design), **Nat Reed** (Mask and Set Design), **Emily Jacobson** (Makeup Design), **Joseph Craven** (Sound Design) and **David Mortensen** (Marketing/Producer).

BIOGRAPHIES

Chris Clark (Henry, Resident Artist) is originally from Provo, and graduated with an MFA in directing from the University of Exeter. He is currently a PhD student in theater education at BYU. He has performed at Shakespeare's Globe in London and has trained with the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Steppenwolf Theatre, and Second City Chicago. Chris played the lead role in the feature film "Stalking Santa," and was also featured in "Brigham City" and "Saints and Soldiers." Locally he has directed at the Hale Center Theatre, SCERA, The Provo Theatre Company, BYU, ARTE, and UVU, where he is a full time professor of acting.

David Morgan (Victor, Founding Member) received his BA from Brigham Young University, in 1985; and an MFA, from The National Theatre Conservatory, in 1990. He has been on the full-time faculty with the BYU Theater and Media Arts Department for 13 years. He has taught all levels of acting courses, speech and diction, vocal production and improvisational acting. He is also an expert in dance, yoga, and stage combat. He has directed many productions in Utah, Colorado, and Alaska, such as *Beauty and the Beast*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Into the Woods*, *A Man for all Seasons*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and he has been seen on stages in Utah, Minnesota, California and Colorado, including Sundance, the National Theatre Conservatory, and Walt Disney. His acting credits include the Denver Center Theatre Company, The Arvada Center for the Performing Arts, Common Weal Theatre Company, Santa Barbara Shakespeare Festival, and the Actors Repertory Theatre Ensemble.

Dave Mortensen (Producer, Founding Member) is a soon-to-be graduate of BYU with a focus in directing and production management. In the past two years, he has produced fifteen productions including 9 original scripts. Directing credits include *Without Fear*, *Bunny Bunny: a sort-of love story*, and *The Secret Garden*. David serves as a producer for Bluelight Stage and the Mortal Fools Theatre Project..

Jennifer Reed (Director/Producer, Founding Member) is happy to be back in Provo, Utah after spending 17 years working professionally as a AEA Production Stage Manager and director. She currently works full time at Brigham Young University teaching stage management and managing productions and events in five theatres. She has stage managed over 100 productions including national tours, international tours and many regional theatre productions. She spent 9 years in Los Angeles working with companies such as; A Noise Within Theatre Company, The Los Angeles Children's Chorus, LA Opera and The Los Angeles Philharmonic. Recent directing credits include; *Smokey Joe's Café* and *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*.

Ward Wright (The Creature, Founding Member) is a technical director and scene shop supervisor at BYU. He worked as a professional actor for 15 years before that performing at Missouri Rep, Heartland Theatre, Unicorn theatre (All in Kansas city,) and the Pioneer Theatre Company before taking his current position at BYU.

About Mortal Fools Theatre Project

Mortal Fools was founded in June 2009 by David Morgan, Dave Mortensen, Jennifer Reed and Ward Wright with the intent to form an ensemble of professionally trained actors united to present classics from the dramatic and literary repertoire to Utah County audiences. Resident Artists in the company include actors from the local community as well as faculty from UVU and BYU.

The rest of Mortal Fools' 2009-10 season will include:

- **The Glass Menagerie**, by Tennessee Williams, March 2009.

About Bluelight Stage

Bluelight Stage exists to strengthen the Provo theatre community through new works and original adaptations of the canon, by forming partnerships with local businesses and artists, and by approaching each production with a commercial theatre mindset.

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