

ST. MICHAEL'S PLAYERS

present a unique "open stage"
interpretation of Mary Shelley's

FRANKENSTEIN

adapted by
Tim Kelly

DIRECTED BY
MICHAEL ROBINSON

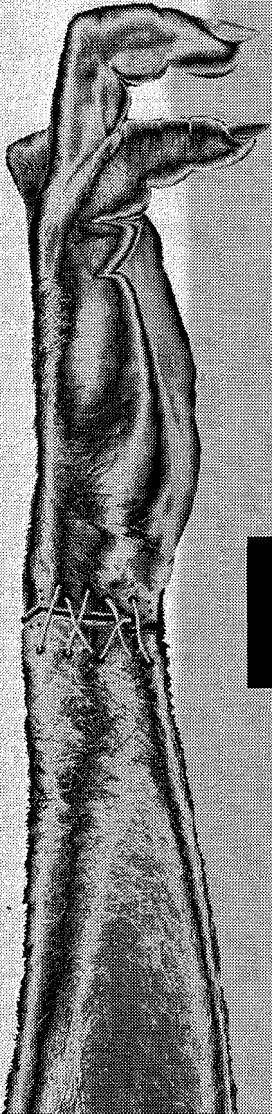
at

St. Michael's Centre · Elmwood Road
Chiswick · London W4

PROGRAMME £1

HEALTH WARNING

THIS PERFORMANCE INCLUDES FLASHING LIGHTS AND GUNFIRE



A NEW STAGE IN OUR DEVELOPMENT

Our sell-out success with *Hay Fever* encouraged us to try something different. Abetted by the PCC, who would like to make St Michael's Centre as flexible as possible, we decided to forsake our excellent stage and mount a production "in the round" – or three quarters in the round as we are this evening.

We have had to adjust ticket prices which means an increase for many of our audience who fall in to the "Adult" category. Hire of the Centre alone, despite the generous terms set by the PCC, is now approximately £600 per production compared to £170 for the last play in the old hall – not that we would wish to return to those leaky and draughty days.

We aim to cover our costs and set aside a small sum towards future capital expenditure, like an improved sound system which is next on the list. But, even with the sell-out success of *Hay Fever* we only made it into the "black" thanks to the bar takings. For both *Hay Fever* and *Frankenstein* we are also donating one evening's takings in the form of a charity performance. We hope you find the experience of *Frankenstein* worth the extra expense.

1999 is our fiftieth year. Please turn to the back page for further information and a membership application form.

Michael Robinson
CHAIRMAN

FRANKENSTEIN

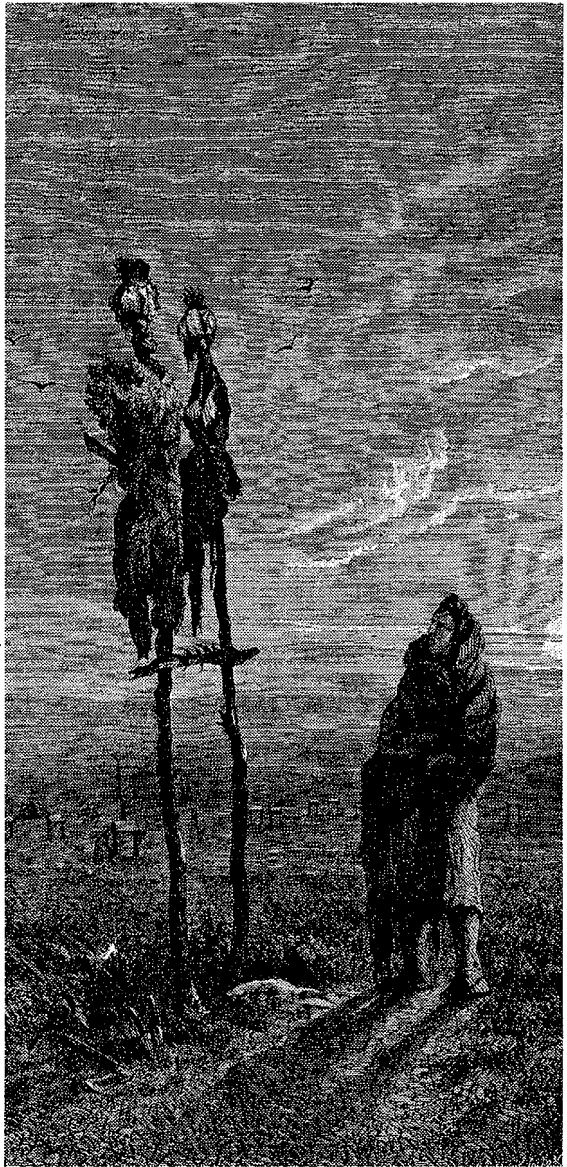
by Tim Kelly

adapted from Mary Shelley's
novel

A recent edition of the TV programme "*Tomorrow's World*" concentrated on the enormous potential good to emerge from "Bio-technology". As Victor Frankenstein's fellow scientist, Henry Clerval, says to the Creature, "You are living proof that worn-out parts can be replaced. You offer hope for an extended life span".

One hundred and ninety years ago Mary Shelley imagined the darker side of this proposition. The limits of science at the time would mean that such a creature would inevitably look unusual. The core of this tale is the misery and alienation the Creature feels on encountering the reaction he provokes in ordinary human beings. In siding with the creature, Henry

Clerval pleads that the Creature had every right to expect kindness and understanding but found instead that mankind itself is very often monstrous. Whether the Creature's reaction to his situation is acceptable or not is up to the audience to judge.



THE CAST

in order of appearance

ERNST HESSLER
Inspector General of Police

MERVYN JUPE

SOPHIE
Housekeeper

FRAN FOX

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

PHILIP LYE

ELIZABETH
Victor's fiancée

CHARLOTTE ALEXANDER

HENRY CLERVAL
Victor's friend

MIKE HODGEN

FRAU FRANKENSTEIN
Victor's mother

SUE DARRIEULAT

THE CREATURE

PETER WOODS

JUSTINE
A gypsy girl

FRANCES PRICE



THE COMPANY



DIRECTOR	MICHAEL ROBINSON
PRODUCER & STAGE MANAGER	BEATRICE PACKARD
LIGHTING	FRANCES PRICE
SOUND	DENIS BERESFORD
SET DESIGN	SALLY PRING
PROPS	DIANA GRAHAM & RUTH REID
COSTUMES	JENNIE YATES
MAKE-UP	JEMIMA LLOYD & ALI VON SIMSON
PROMPT	CHRISTINE LEE & JACQUETTA PEASE
PUBLICITY	KAY CABLE
GRAPHIC DESIGN	ROGER PRING
BUSINESS MANAGER	VAL YATES
FRONT OF HOUSE	KAY CABLE

FRANKENSTEIN

by Tim Kelly

*The action takes place in Victor Frankenstein's study
in the basement of his Chateau on the banks of Lake Geneva*

ACT 1

S C E N E 1

Their Wedding Night, followed by a
flashback to an afternoon some months earlier

S C E N E 2

Immediately following

S C E N E 3

Later that evening

A N I N T E R V A L O F 1 5 M I N U T E S

ACT 2

S C E N E 1

One week later, early morning

S C E N E 2

Two days later, afternoon

S C E N E 3

Their Wedding night – as opening of play

RECENT PRODUCTIONS

1986

Spring: *Habeas Corpus*

Autumn: *Separate Tables*

1987

Spring: *See How They Run*

Autumn: *Living Together*

1988

Spring: *Night Watch*

Autumn: *The Magistrate*

1989

Spring: *On Monday Next*

Autumn: *Quartermaine's Terms*

1990

Spring: *Man of Destiny &*

Face the Music

Autumn: *Alphabetical Order*

1991

Spring: *Mixed Doubles*

Autumn: *Present Laughter*

1992

Autumn: *Rough Crossing*

1993

Spring: *Round and Round the Garden*

Autumn: *The Deep Blue Sea*

1994

Spring: *Steel Magnolias*

Autumn: *Love Affair*

1995

Spring: *Still Life*

Summer: *Before Dawn*

Autumn: *Pack of Lies*

1996

Spring: *Harlequinade*

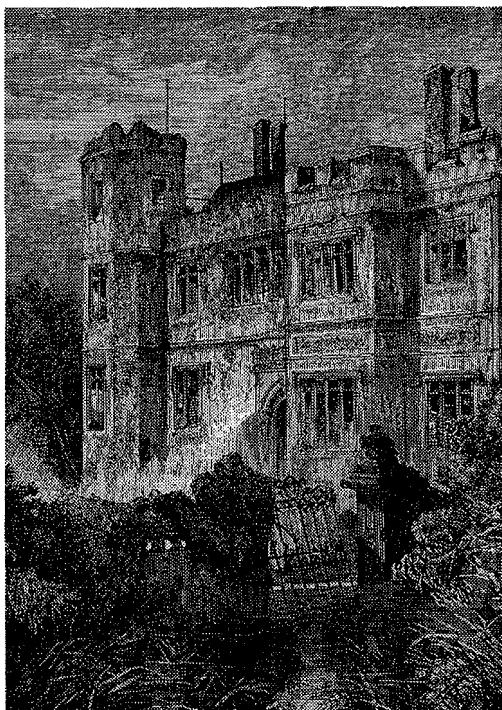
1997

Spring: *Move over Mrs Markham*

Autumn: *The Potting Shed*

1998

Spring: *Hay Fever*





JOIN OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

1999 sees The Players turn fifty. To mark this extraordinary achievement there will be various activities throughout the year. This will be a great opportunity for new members to join and become involved both on-stage and off.

Denis Beresford is the committee member charged with developing our "Pageant" of fifty years in existence. So, if you'd like to be involved please give him a ring on 0181 878 2754.

For membership details please ring Ruth Reid on 0181 994 5296 or post the form below to:

Ruth Reid,
Membership Secretary,
76 Wavendon Avenue,
Chiswick, London W4 4NS.

Membership Application Form

I should like to join St Michael's Players and enclose a cheque for £15 (payable to St Michael's Players), for my 1999 annual subscription.

Under 18's are welcomed as free members.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post code _____

Telephone _____