

# MEDIA RELEASE

THE  
**COURT**  
THEATRE

19 July 2021

For immediate release

## [Frankenstein by Nick Dear](#)

Adapted from the novel by Mary Shelley

Directed by Holly Chappell

Show Partner: Ara Institute of Canterbury

Location: The Court Theatre, Addington, Christchurch

**Dates: 7 August – 4 September 2021**

### Short show description:

In this Court Theatre adaptation of the classic novel, young scientist Victor Frankenstein brings to life a man-made creature, sewing together dead body parts with little thought to the consequences.

Abandoned by his maker and treated to the worst of humanity's scorn, Creature becomes intent on finding Frankenstein and making him pay...

With lead actors James Kupa and Wesley Dowdell alternating between the roles of the scientist and his creation, this international hit explores the eternal themes of humanity, good vs evil and what happens when we blur the line between life and death.

*Frankenstein* runs at The Court Theatre from 7 August – 4 September 2021.

## THE COURT THEATRE BRINGS YOU THE THRILLING DRAMA OF FRANKENSTEIN LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE

7 AUG to 4 SEP

*Frankenstein*

By **NICK DEAR**

From the novel by **MARY SHELLEY**

COURTTHEATRE.ORG.NZ

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SEASON SPONSOR Meridian

CORE FUNDER creative nz

SHOW PARTNER Ara Institute of Canterbury

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The Court Theatre

PO Box 268

Christchurch 8140

New Zealand

Email: [bookings@courttheatre.org.nz](mailto:bookings@courttheatre.org.nz)

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## IN DEPTH:

In this Court Theatre interpretation of the classic novel, young scientist Victor Frankenstein brings to life a man-made creature, sewing together dead body parts with little thought to the consequences.

Abandoned by his maker and treated to the worst of humanity's scorn, Creature becomes intent on finding Frankenstein and making him pay...

Originally written in 1818 by Mary Shelley and more recently adapted into the 2011 production by Nick Dear, the story of Frankenstein has been told in many ways throughout the years. None however, have quite matched the thrilling drama that is on offer at The Court Theatre this August and September.

"Forget any preconceptions you had about the story of Frankenstein and the monster with bolts in his neck. Instead, you'll see an electrifying production which will leave you wondering who the real monster actually is." says *Frankenstein* Director, Holly Chappell.

With lead actors James Kupa and Wesley Dowdell alternating between the roles of the scientist and his creation, this international hit explores the eternal themes of humanity, good vs evil and what happens when we blur the line between life and death.

"I can't wait for people to experience this pinnacle masterpiece of the birth of science-fiction." – says Kupa.

Show Partner Ara Institute of Canterbury are also looking forward to seeing Victor Frankenstein and his Creature to come to life from 7 August. Ara's partnership with The Court Theatre is a multi-faceted collaboration which also sees 15 students from Ara's National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) feature in the cast.

"It's fantastic to see two Canterbury institutions come together in such a creative way. With the inclusion of these talented NASDA students in the show, it felt like the perfect fit for us." says Darren Mitchell, Acting CE of Ara.

The creative collaborations don't stop there as local Canterbury fashion designer Steven Junil Park brings his experience from the catwalk to the stage by coming onboard as the show's costume designer. Park's vision will showcase the power of clothing and costume to create the space between imagination and reality.

"*Frankenstein* will be our biggest show of the year, and with Director Holly Chappell's physical and visual storytelling, this promises to be a unique and unforgettable experience for Cantabrians." says The Court Theatre's Artistic Director, Dan Pengelly.

***Frankenstein runs at The Court Theatre from 7 August – 4 September 2021.***

"A hell of a production" *The Times*

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## Cast

Victor Frankenstein / Creature  
Victor Frankenstein / Creature  
Elizabeth / Agatha  
De Lacey / Monsieur Frankenstein  
Victor (understudy) / Felix

## NASDA

William  
William  
Gustav  
Klaus  
Elizabeth/Agatha (understudy)  
Ensemble  
Clarice  
Female Creature  
Female Creature  
Constable  
Ensemble  
Ensemble  
Rab  
Gretel

## Creatives

Director  
Movement Director  
Set Designer  
Costume Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Sound Designer  
Stage Manager

## Ticket Prices

Adult  
Senior (65+)  
Group (6+)  
Friends of The Court  
Community Services or KiwiAble Leisure cardholders  
Children (under 18)  
30 Below (aged 30 & under)  
School Groups\*

[James Kupa](#)  
[Wesley Dowdell](#)  
[Elisabeth Marschall](#)  
[Roy Snow](#)  
[Tom Eason](#)

Kyle Aitken  
Tristan Valencia  
Matthew Farnell  
Nicole Wilson  
Krystal O’Gorman  
Georgia Carnegie  
Abi McDonald  
Nadia Hill  
Asuka Kubo  
Xavier Paul  
Leo Munro  
Jayshri Ratnam  
Ben Jarrett  
Katie Atkins

[Holly Chappell](#)  
[Tom Eason](#)  
[Harold Moot](#)  
[Steven Junil Park](#)  
[Sheena Baines](#)  
[Matt Short](#)  
[Jo Bunce](#)

\$56 - \$62  
\$50 - \$56  
\$53  
\$49 - \$54  
\$31  
\$30 - 31  
\$30  
\$22

*\*Call Box Office to book*

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## Show Times

- Monday & Thursday 6:30pm
- Tue/Wed/Fri/Sat 7:30pm
- Forum (incl. Cast and Crew Q&A) 6:30pm Monday 9 August

**Bookings:** phone 03 963 0870 or visit [www.courttheatre.org.nz](http://www.courttheatre.org.nz)

Images can be found at The Court Theatre's [Media Centre](#)

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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