FRANKENSTEIN AND POPULAR CULTURE

Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Creation and Publication of Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein.


Hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Medical History and Bioethics.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:15 PM Welcome and Opening Remarks

7:30 PM Film Screening
The Bride of Frankenstein (1935)

Post-Screening Discussion
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM  Breakfast
Union South, see “Today in the Union” for specific location

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM  Session One
*I am fearless and therefore powerful: Monster Theory*

Chair: Jenell Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison


Catherine Belling, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, “Frankenstein among the Aliens: Circular Creation and a Posthuman Prometheus.”

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  Break

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  Session Two
*We are fashioned creatures, but half made up: Film*

Chair: Brent Notbohm, University of Wisconsin-Superior

Barry Grant, Brock University, St. Catharine’s Ontario, “‘Just a Few Stitches -- and Look’: Popular Film as Frankenstein”

Susan Lederer, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, “Dr. Frankenstein, I Presume: Medicine and the Monster in Film.”

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM  Lunch
Please note that lunches are provided for registered participants; Union South offers a variety of food options for local visitors.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM  Session Three
*How Dare you sport thus with life: History of Science and Bioethics*

Chair: Nicole Nelson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Paul Root Wolpe, Emory University, “Frankenstein and the Golem: Two models of aesthetics and creation for modern biotechnology”

Allison Kavey, CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the CUNY Graduate Center, “‘The inestimable benefit which I shall confer on all mankind to the last generation’: The contest over the means and motivating for making natural knowledge in Frankenstein.”

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM  Break

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM  Session Four
*I ought to be thy Adam, but I am rather the fallen angel: Disability*

Chair: Lester D. Friedman, Hobart and Smith College

Mark Mossman, Western Illinois University, “Atypical Bodies, Personal Narrative, and the Nation: Physical Difference in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*”

Angela Smith, University of Utah, “Walk this Way: Frankenstein’s Monster, Zombies, and Disability Simulation.”

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM  Break/Snacks/Drinks
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM        Session Five
*If I cannot Inspire love, I will cause fear*: Theater

Chair: Travis Weisse, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Tess Jones, University of Colorado Medical School, “‘What was I?’: Human Experimentation in Shelley’s *Frankenstein* and Buchner’s *Woyzeck*”

Matthew Buckley, Rutgers University, “‘It lives! It lives!’: Gaslight, Neo-Gothic Melodrama, and Frankenstein’s Popular Cultural Birth”

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM        Free Time

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM        Dinner
Steenbock’s on Orchard, Discovery Building

7:30 PM        Lecture
Union South
Lester D. Friedman, Hobart and Smith College, “Creature Features: Frankenstein’s on Film”
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM  Breakfast

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM  Section Six
**How ignorant art thou in thy pride of wisdom**: Technology

Chair: Dana Freiburger, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Despina Kakoudaki, American University, “Unmaking People: The Politics of Negation from *Frankenstein* to *Westworld*

David Guston, Arizona State University, “Frankenstein and Contemporary Techno-Science”

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM  Session Seven
**Only someone as ugly as I am could love me**: Graphic Narratives

Chair: Pablo Gómez, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Lisa Diedrich, SUNY Stony Brook, “*Monster en abyme*: sympathy and ill feeling in graphic Frankenstein narratives”

Elizabeth Young, Mt. Holyoke College, “Black Frankenstein at the Bicentennial”

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM  Wrap Up Comments