

THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER

Music: J. Mark Scearce

Choreography: Robert Weiss

Libretto: Robert Weiss and J. Mark Scearce based
on the poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge,

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Scenic Design: Jeff A. R. Jones

Costume Design: Kerri L. Martinsen

Lighting Design: Ross Kolman

Ancient Mariner	RICHARD KRUSCH
Albatross.....	MARGARET SEVERIN-HANSEN
Death.....	KIEFER CURTIS
Life in Death.....	LARA O'BRIEN
Bride.....	AMANDA GERHARDT
Groom.....	CHRISTIAN GUTIERREZ
Sailors	MAXMILIAN ISAACSON SOKVANNARA SAR, MILES SOLLARS-WHITE
Female Wedding Guests	Heather Duncan, Ayla O'Day Jenny Palmer, Deirdre Scanlon, Anne Wright
Male Wedding Guests/ Additional Sailors.....	Keenan English, Nicholas Fokine, Joseph Gerhardt Jonah Glickman, Stephan Marshall, Luke Potgieter
Seaworms/Rest of Crew.....	Zoe D'Astolfo, Laurel Dorn Anna-Moriah Fung, Abby Grossen, Emily McGeehan Francesca Poznanski, Rachel Robinson, Ella Volpe

Intermission

FRANKENSTEIN

Dedicated to Mr. Michael Rierson and Dr. Kay Lowe

Music: J. Mark Searce

Choreography: Zalman Raffael

Libretto: Zalman Raffael based
on the novel *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

Scenic Design: Jeff A. R. Jones

Costume Design: Kerri L. Martinsen

Lighting Design: Ross Kolman

Victor Frankenstein
YEVGENY SHLAPKO

Monster
MARCELO MARTINEZ

Elizabeth
JAN BURKHARD

Good
ASHLEY HATHAWAY

Evil
ALYSSA PILGER

Henry
MILES SOLLARS-WHITE

Justine
COURTNEY SCHENBERGER

William Frankenstein
NOAH PEETERS-DUFOUR

Cast

Taylor Ayotte Kathleen Black Keenan English Nicholas Fokine
Christian Gutierrez Maxmilian Isaacson Jenny Palmer Jayson Pescasio
Sara Roe McKenzie Van Oss Lauren Wolfram

The Arctic

The Arctic Women.....Taylor Ayotte, Kathleen Black, Jenny Palmer
Sara Roe, McKenzie Van Oss, Lauren Wolfram

Walton's Journey

Walton Maxmilian Isaacson
Lt. SailorChristian Gutierrez
Sailors Keenan English, Nicholas Fokine, Jayson Pescasio

Finding Victor

Victor Frankenstein **YEVGENY SHLAPKO**
Walton Maxmilian Isaacson
Sailors Keenan English, Nicholas Fokine
Christian Gutierrez, Jayson Pescasio

Ship's Cabin

Victor Frankenstein **YEVGENY SHLAPKO**
Walton Maxmilian Isaacson

Back in Geneva

Victor Frankenstein **YEVGENY SHLAPKO**
Elizabeth **JAN BURKHARD**
Henry **MILES SOLLARS-WHITE**
Justine **COURTNEY SCHENBERGER**
William Frankenstein NOAH PEETERS-DUFOUR
Frankenstein Parents Christian Gutierrez, Lauren Wolfram

University

Victor Frankenstein **YEVGENY SHLAPKO**
Professor Nicholas Fokine
Students Keenan English, Maxmilian Isaacson, Jayson Pescasio

In the Lab

Victor Frankenstein **YEVGENY SHLAPKO**
Monster **MARCELO MARTINEZ**
Good **ASHLEY HATHAWAY**
Evil **ALYSSA PILGER**

Blind Man's Cabin

Monster **MARCELO MARTINEZ**
Good **ASHLEY HATHAWAY**
Evil **ALYSSA PILGER**
Blind Father Nicholas Fokine
His Son Jayson Pescasio
People in the Woods Cast

Back in Geneva

Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Elizabeth	JAN BURKHARD
Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Henry.....	MILES SOLLARS-WHITE
Justine.....	COURTNEY SCHENBERGER
William Frankenstein	NOAH PEETERS-DUFOUR
Frankenstein Parents	Christian Gutierrez, Lauren Wolfram

The Woods

Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Good.....	ASHLEY HATHAWAY
Evil.....	ALYSSA PILGER
Justine.....	COURTNEY SCHENBERGER
William Frankenstein	NOAH PEETERS-DUFOUR

Discovery of Justine with William's Body

Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Elizabeth	JAN BURKHARD
Henry.....	MILES SOLLARS-WHITE
Justine.....	COURTNEY SCHENBERGER
William Frankenstein	NOAH PEETERS-DUFOUR
Father Frankenstein	Christian Gutierrez

Justine's Arrest

Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Elizabeth	JAN BURKHARD
Henry.....	MILES SOLLARS-WHITE
Justine.....	COURTNEY SCHENBERGER
Police.....	Keenan English and Nicholas Fokine
Father Frankenstein	Christian Gutierrez

Build Me a Bride

Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO

Henry's Death

Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Henry.....	MILES SOLLARS-WHITE

Wedding

Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Elizabeth	JAN BURKHARD
Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Father Frankenstein	Christian Gutierrez
Wedding Guests.....	Cast

Back to the Arctic

Victor Frankenstein	YEVGENY SHLAPKO
Monster.....	MARCELO MARTINEZ
Good.....	ASHLEY HATHAWAY
Evil.....	ALYSSA PILGER
Walton	Maxmilian Isaacson

PROGRAM NOTES

THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER

When looking for an appetizer to accompany the main course of *Frankenstein*, I came across a reference to *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* in the very beginning of Mary Shelley's book. In *Letter 2 Walton*, the Sea Captain quotes a line from Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem and then mentions the character of the Ancient Mariner. I had always known the quotes "water, water, everywhere, but not a drop to drink" and "albatross about one's neck", but had never actually read Coleridge's poem. When I went online and read the poem, I found it the perfect complement to *Frankenstein*. In real life, Mary Shelley and Samuel Taylor Coleridge knew each other well, and there are many parallels between the two stories if one cares to go online and read more. As I was additionally looking for something for Halloween, I came to the part of the poem that talks about the ghost ship with just two crew members, "death" and "life in death" and it cemented my decision to choose *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* to open the program.

— Robert Weiss

FRANKENSTEIN

This ballet is inspired by Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The scenes take place in the same order as the book. One interpretive addition to the ballet is the presence of the Monster's good and evil consciousness. These aspects appear in the scene after Victor abandons his creation and represent parts of the monster that long for love/companionship, and the sides of him that begin to react to rejection and revulsion from the people he goes to befriend. The cast performs different roles in the various scenes.

The book opens with Walton on a voyage to the Arctic where he and his crew come across a figure in the distance. Shortly after, they find a frail, near-death Victor Frankenstein. Upon taking him aboard and down to Walton's cabin, Victor begins to tell the story of how he came to the Arctic.

His story begins in Geneva with his family – Elizabeth (Victor's adopted sister); Henry (their best friend); William (Victor's youngest brother); Justine (William's caretaker); and Victor's parents. His mother is ill and passes just before Victor heads to University. Upon her death, she hands William a locket, asks Elizabeth to take care of the family, and tells Victor to marry his adopted sister. They have loved one another since childhood.

Victor heads to University where his professor guides him in the study of science related to biology, electricity, Galvanism, pseudo-genetic engineering, and early genetics. It is during Victor's time at University that he decides to create life. When Victor's creation comes to life, he is horrified and abandons his child, "the monster". The monster then searches for guidance and friendship and finds a cabin in the woods where a blind man and his son reside. The blind man takes to the monster's presence, but when the son returns to the cabin he attacks the monster. The monster is confronted with his rage and revolts.

Back in Geneva the family mourns, waiting to hear from Victor. Henry brings Victor back to his family. It is then that Elizabeth and Victor decide to get married. The monster continues to search for acceptance and with each attempt those he tries to befriend retaliate with aggression which infuriates him and causes him to react with greater aggression. The tale comes to a close in the Arctic where the monster finds Victor and they meet their destinies.