



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 16, 2015

“He is no man. He is a monster. And I must destroy him.”

**The Arts Engine
presents an all-new theatrical
adaptation - *Frankenstein Live***

at the Walmer Centre Theatre Oct 22 - Nov 8, 2015

Toronto, ON – The Arts Engine presents an immersive reading of an exciting new adaptation of Mary Shelley’s classic novel *Frankenstein*.

“It is a universal story of ambition without morality” says Dora-nominated director **Tom Carson**. “It is so relevant to humanity’s quest for knowledge and power. *Frankenstein Live* is an experience for lovers of literature and fine writing, for sure. But it’s also for anyone who loves a good ghost story. The bottom line is that the monster is still out there. And that is truly terrifying.”

Mary Shelley’s classic tale about the personal cost of professional achievement comes to life in an immersive theatrical reading as *Frankenstein Live*, adapted for the stage by **Warren MacDonald**. Shelley’s original story, considered by many to be the first work of science fiction, is a story about a man (Victor Frankenstein) and his monster. It tells of Mr. Frankenstein’s desperate, worldwide search to find and stop the evil force he has created. This adaptation, like the original novel, asks us to think about what happens to us when we are entirely alone in the world.

The talented creative team is building an experience that is so much more than a staged reading. Audiences will be surrounded by remnants of the timeless gothic novel *Frankenstein* and a rich soundscape by **Douglas Romanow**, including entirely original music.

Set onboard the Prometheus, an ice-bound ship, Victor Frankenstein recounts the secrets of his life to his new friend Robert Walton. His tragic story plays out in the sails and trappings of the ship, through the use of projection and multi-media. The score is composed by Douglas Romanow (douglasromanow.com) and designed by Toronto designer Joe Pagnan (joepagnan.com).

The rich style of the classic novel is preserved in a script by **Warren MacDonald** which highlights the psycho-spiritual aspect of the original story. In keeping with the classic novel of 1818, this theatrical retelling eschews the Hollywood-style pulsating electrical laboratory and angry torch-bearing mobs in favour of a portrait of one man’s obsessive pursuit and subsequent discovery of the key to life.

“(I have) a desire to share this wonderful piece of literature with others and to let them know that there’s so much more to the story than the mute raging monster of the movies” - Warren MacDonald, playwright



Frankenstein Live will be presented at The Walmer Centre Theatre (188 Lowther) from Oct 22 - Nov 8. The performance is approximately 2 hours with one intermission. Tickets are \$25 and are available online at frankensteinlive.ca

Facebook: [Frankenstein Live](#)

Twitter: [@theartsengine](#)

Twitter Hashtag: #Frankenstein2015

Frankenstein Live, from Mary Shelley, adapted for the stage by Warren MacDonald

Venue: The Walmer Centre Theatre, 188 Lowther (one block north of Bloor, one block west of Spadina)

Dates: October 22 - November 8 2015

Tickets on sale: tickets \$25 frankensteinlive.ca

Produced by **The Arts Engine**

Director

Tom Carson

Playwright

Warren MacDonald

Designer

Joe Pagnan

Sound Designer and Composer

Douglas Romanow

Cast to be announced in early October

For more information or interview requests, please contact:

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About The Arts Engine:

The Arts Engine powers professional artists and arts projects into action. We connect artists with communities to inspire, challenge and encourage the world around them through meaningful arts experiences.

The Arts Engine has been creating and producing theatre since 2008. Its first production was a collective about Christmas called 2000 Candles, which was created by Ins Choi, Tom Carson, Richard Peters, Jeanine Noyes and Andrea Cross. Since then, The Arts Engine has consistently produced touring and resident productions. The original collective members of 2000 Candles have been involved in a variety of different contexts as creators and performers, but the administration of the company resides with director and producer Tom Carson and graphic designer, writer and producer, Warren MacDonald. The touring productions have played in many cities including Toronto, Orillia, Chatham, Calgary, Red Deer, and Duncan, BC. In 2012 The Arts Engine produced an original play, The Ghosts of Mariposa, by Orillia playwright SC Pinney. It won the "2014 TASH Media and Arts Award" which is awarded by the leading disabled adult advocacy group in North America. The Arts Engine accepted the award at the international conference in Washington, DC this past December.