

AN IMITATING THE DOG & LEEDS PLAYHOUSE CO-PRODUCTION

FRANKENSTEIN

INSPIRED BY MARY SHELLEY'S NOVEL

WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES

To accompany the 2024 tour of *Frankenstein*, imitating the dog are offering three practical workshops and three talks that offer a deeper insight into the show, explore the choices made in adapting and staging Shelley's novel, and introduce our trademark use of technology. Full details below. For pricing and enquiries please contact ben@imitatingthedog.co.uk.

WORKSHOP: CREATING A MONSTER - EXPLORING FRANKENSTEIN'S ISSUES

This short, accessible workshop uses simple devising skills and discussion to interrogate ethical highlighted in ITD's adaptation of *Frankenstein*. Participants create and share short scenes based on a range of fictional scenarios, each inspired by moral questions explored in Shelley's novel. Learners will then apply the ideas they have explored to imagining a conversation between Frankenstein's creature and his real creator, Mary Shelley. An imaginative, practical session that demonstrates how and why ITD have adapted a 19th-century novel to reflect 21st-century concerns.

- 10 – 30 participants
- 14+
- in person only
- 1-2 hrs



WORKSHOP: FRANKENSTEIN REMIXED

This longer-form workshop further explores ITD's cutting-edge blend of creative technology and performance. Participants recreate, shot for shot in real time, sections of a movie version of *Frankenstein* using mobile phones and a laptop. The session introduces accessible live streaming software and provides a deeper insight into imitating the dog's creative process – incorporating live performance, camera operation/lighting, and aspects of design for camera.

[NB: Access to a wide-screen TV or projector and screen is required for this workshop. All other equipment and software is provided].

- 10 – 30 participants
- 14+
- In person only
- Half day (3hrs) - Full Day

TALK: WHY FRANKENSTEIN?

This talk seeks to answer the question: why tell this particular story, at this particular time? This will be the fifth novel that ITD have adapted for the stage – sometimes completely reimagined, sometimes faithfully retold. But every time the creative team chooses to adapt a text they must ask themselves: Why this story? And why now?

- Available in person or remotely
- 30-45 mins



WORKSHOP: STAGING THE CINEMATIC

A fun, practical workshop where participants learn more about ITD's fascination with blending the languages of theatre and film. Taking a classic movie scene as a starting point, groups will create a short improvisation before we begin layering in ITD's methodologies and offering provocations. The session introduces some of ITD's foundational techniques and explores what makes the storytelling mediums of theatre and cinema unique, and what can be gained by combining them.

- 10 – 30 participants
- 14+
- in person only
- 1.5 hrs - Half day (3 hrs)

TALK: ADAPTING FRANKENSTEIN

This talk traces the cinematic history of *Frankenstein* and our, the audience's, connection to this classic work of Gothic horror. Over 25 years of transmedial performance making, ITD's obsession with the relationship between film and theatre has only deepened. From James Whale's iconic *Frankenstein* (1931), to Kenneth Branagh's more faithful 1994 version, to more esoteric and tangential interpretations such as Victor Eric's *The Spirit of the Beehive* (1973), the talk explores imagery, cinematic aesthetics, and finally touches on how these films are informing ITD's approach to our stage production.

- Available in person or remotely.
- 30-45 mins

TALK: 25 YEARS OF MAKING

As the company celebrates its 25th birthday, this talk looks back at the history of ITD: From the early years of devising work as a young company straight out of university, through to establishing a creative relationship with director Pete Brooks in 2005, and the paths the work has taken since in its exploration of the relationship between theatre and technology.

- Available in person or remotely
- 30-45 mins

FOR PRICING AND ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT
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Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Photography by Ed Waring.