

Approximate timings

Live cinema relay begins at 7.15pm

Act I 50 minutes

Interval

Act II 45 minutes

Interval

Act II 30 minutes

The live relay will end at approximately 10.25pm

In Act I scene 3, approximately 33 minutes in, there are two pyrotechnics effects.
In Act I scene 5, approximately 44 minutes in, there are strobes and more pyrotechnics effects. Towards the end of Act III, there is a gunshot.

Tweet your thoughts about tonight's performance before it starts, during the interval or afterwards with **#ROHfrankenstein**

2016/17 Live Cinema Season

WERTHER MONDAY 27 JUNE 2016

NORMA MONDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2016

COSÌ FAN TUTTE MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2016

ANASTASIA WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2016

LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2016

THE NUTCRACKER THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016

IL TROVATORE TUESDAY 31 JANUARY 2017

WOOLF WORKS WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2017

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2017

MADAMA BUTTERFLY THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017

JEWELS TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2017

THE DREAM/SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS/MARGUERITE AND ARMAND
WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE 2017

OTELLO WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

Digital Programme

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ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

THE ROYAL BALLET

DIRECTOR KEVIN O'HARE

FOUNDER DAME NINETTE DE VALOIS OM CH DBE

FOUNDER CHOREOGRAPHER

SIR FREDERICK ASHTON OM CH CBE

FOUNDER MUSIC DIRECTOR CONSTANT LAMBERT

PRIMA BALLERINA ASSOLUTA

DAME MARGOT FONTEYN DBE

FRANKENSTEIN

BALLET IN THREE ACTS

CHOREOGRAPHY LIAM SCARLETT

MUSIC LOWELL LIEBERMANN

DESIGNER JOHN MACFARLANE

LIGHTING DESIGNER DAVID FINN

PROJECTION DESIGNER FINN ROSS

BALLET MISTRESS SAMANTHA RAINE

ASSISTANT BALLET MASTER RICARDO CERVERA

PRINCIPAL COACHING LESLEY COLLIER, RICARDO CERVERA

BENESH NOTATOR GREGORY MISLIN

CONDUCTOR KOEN KESSELS

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

CO-CONCERT MASTER SERGEY LEVITIN

DIRECTED FOR THE SCREEN BY ROSS MACGIBBON

LIVE FROM THE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2016, 7.15PM

A CO-PRODUCTION BETWEEN
THE ROYAL BALLET AND SAN FRANCISCO BALLET

Synopsis

Act I Prologue. Geneva, 1775

A young orphan, Elizabeth Lavenza, is adopted into the Frankenstein household.

Scene 1. Geneva, 1788: the Frankenstein manor

Under the watchful eye of the Frankensteins’ housekeeper Madame Moritz and her daughter Justine, Victor is preparing to head to university to become a doctor like his father, Alphonse. As a leaving present his father gives him a journal to fill with all his scientific ideas. His mother, Caroline Beaufort, pregnant with her second child, presents Victor with a locket bearing her portrait through which to remember her. Victor and Elizabeth’s affections have grown towards each other over the years and finally, before Victor leaves, they declare their love. Victor swears he will be back after his studies and that they will be married. They tell the family the joyous news, and amid the celebrations Caroline collapses. Victor’s brother William is born. However, Caroline does not survive the birth.

Scene 2. The Frankenstein cemetery

Stricken with grief at the loss of his mother, Victor says goodbye to Elizabeth and embarks on his journey to university.

Scene 3. The anatomy theatre at Ingolstadt University

On Victor’s first day at university, he meets Henry Clerval, a kind-hearted student also with aspirations of becoming a doctor. Victor studies hard and laboriously under his professor, who fills his students’ heads with ideas of the new scientific world and galvanism.

Scene 4. The tavern at Ingolstadt

After their studies the students retire to the local tavern; Victor and Henry follow. Victor quickly dismisses their revelries and goes back to the solitude of the classroom.

Scene 5. The anatomy theatre

While thinking of his mother and of life and death, Victor remembers his lessons on how it might be possible to reanimate dead matter. Fuelled with passion and determination, Victor secretly works long into the night, notating every detail in his journal. Finally, Victor succeeds in creating a living being, his Creation. However, Victor’s ideals are ruined when he sees what he has created. The Creature is hideous, unable to function or communicate. Victor is horrified, and the vile monster – equally as scared – flees, taking Victor’s coat, which contains his journal. Henry returns to find Victor in despair and takes him home to Geneva.

Interval

Act II Prologue. Victor’s bedchamber in the Frankenstein manor

Victor has fallen desperately ill, with nightmarish visions of what he has created. He is unable to tell Elizabeth, Henry or Justine, who are nursing him back to health. The Creature, meanwhile, has followed him to Geneva.

Scene 1. Geneva, 1795: outside the Frankenstein manor

Seven years have passed. William is outside learning from Justine, his nanny, on the night before his birthday.

Alone with Victor at last, Elizabeth desperately begs him to tell her what is wrong. Without saying a word, Victor falls into her arms, and as night falls they quietly retire. The Creature comes out of the forest, seeking the acceptance and love of the father who created

him and then abandoned him. He finds Victor’s journal and soon realizes how he came to be. Victor, startled in the night, comes outside and sees his journal. In a panic, he rips it to shreds, banishing any memory of his actions. The Creature sees this and vows to have his revenge on Victor and his family.

On the morning of William’s birthday, preparations for a party are under way. As a present, Victor passes on his mother’s locket to William. A game of blind man’s buff ensues and soon William is left alone. The Creature comes out and, in an attempt to silence William’s screams, kills him. The Creature places the locket he has found on the child with Justine, who is then wrongly accused of murder.

The Creature confronts Victor for the first time. Admitting to killing William and incriminating Justine, he begs for Victor’s love and a companion for himself. Victor refuses. The Creature’s parting words are that he will be with Victor on his wedding night.

Scene 2. A back alley in Geneva

Justine is executed for William’s murder.

Interval

Act III The ballroom at the Frankenstein manor

Victor and Elizabeth have just been married and a ball is being held in their honour. Victor is still plagued with guilt and fear at the Creature’s warning. Victor and Elizabeth’s father is soon found dead. Panic ensues, leaving Henry and Elizabeth alone waiting for Victor’s return. The Creature kills Henry and then turns his attention to Elizabeth, killing her in front of Victor. Distraught by all he has provoked, Victor takes his own life. The Creature cradles his creator and is soon lost in the flames of the Frankenstein manor.

Liam Scarlett

Cast

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN	FEDERICO BONELLI
YOUNG VICTOR	SACHA BARBER
ELIZABETH LAVENZA	LAURA MORERA
YOUNG ELIZABETH	SKYA POWNEY
ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN VICTOR’S FATHER	BENNET GARTSIDE
CAROLINE BEAUFORT VICTOR’S MOTHER	CHRISTINA ARESTIS
WILLIAM FRANKENSTEIN VICTOR’S YOUNGER BROTHER	GUILLEM CABRERA ESPINACH
MADAME MORITZ THE FRANKENSTEINS’ HOUSEKEEPER	ELIZABETH MCGORIAN
JUSTINE MORITZ MADAME MORITZ’S DAUGHTER	MEAGHAN GRACE HINKIS
YOUNG JUSTINE	LAUREN MOLYNEUX
HENRY CLerval VICTOR’S FRIEND	ALEXANDER CAMPBELL
THE PROFESSOR	THOMAS WHITEHEAD
THE CREATURE	STEVEN MCRAE