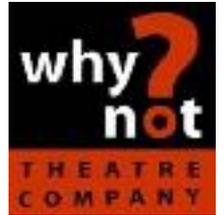


Press release

1 september 2022



WHY NOT THEATRE COMPANY
presents

FRANKENSTEIN

a modern adaptation of Mary Shelley's novel

Performed by: Sue Hansen-Styles, Jessica O'Hara-Baker and Nathan Meister

Written by: Tanja Mastilo

Directed & dramaturgy by: Nina Larissa Bassett

Music design: Barry Wesil

Lighting & Sound design: Lasse Svarre Christensen

Produced by: Why Not Theatre Company

Dates: January 6 - 28th @ Teatret ved Sorte Hest, Vesterbrogade 150, 1620 København V.

Times: Mon- Fri 8 pm; Sat. 5 pm

Duration: Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes without interval

Tickets: [Frankenstein - Teaterbilletter.dk](https://www.teaterbilletter.dk/frankenstein)



Photo: Robin Skjoldborg/Tommy Frost

Guest production at Teatret ved Sorte Hest
Premiere 6th January 2023

Why Not Theatre Company presents FRANKENSTEIN, a new, thought-provoking play about dangerous knowledge, social rejection and a deep longing for connection.

www.whynottheatre.dk

Press release

Who is the real monster?

Why Not Theatre Company's in-house Reumert award-winning writer Tanja Mastilo, has transformed Shelley's captivating Gothic horror tale into a modern drama, where the genders are swapped. In a future dystopian society, complete physical perfection is the dictated norm and all flaws and signs of ageing have been eradicated. Fuelled by raw ambition, Doctor Frankenstein works relentlessly in her laboratory, trying to create a new, immortal species. Her experiment fails and the Creature she gives life to is an old woman – which, in a society that has erased all signs of old age, means only one thing – she's a MONSTER.

This is not a horror story

FRANKENSTEIN will be performed by Sue Hansen-Styles, Nathan Meister and a new addition to the Why Not Theatre Company team; American actress Jessica O'Hara-Baker. Mary Shelley's Frankenstein is written as a compilation of letters, diaries and layered narratives. As an homage to her storytelling, Why Not Theatre Company is creating a performance that brings together video, audio, movement and live performance. Shelley's classic has become associated with horror and monsters, but that doesn't quite do Shelley's tale justice. In her story, the prospect of creating life artificially and the consequences of rejection from society do indeed result in a tragic outcome, but the essence is about loneliness, dangerous knowledge and ambition.

Beauty and the beastly process of ageing

Our society is increasingly obsessed with wrinkles and how best to eradicate them. Women, especially, are under constant pressure to retain their youthful looks for as long as possible. At the same time, billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg and Jeff Bezos are falling over each other to invest in projects that develop new technologies to rejuvenate cells and ultimately reverse the ageing process. Will we become an entire population of flawless individuals living in a world with a new class division of the ageing and the non-ageing?

Why Not Theatre Company will be exploring the consequences of extreme worship of youth and beauty, but also of the qualities of ageing and how it reminds us of our most valuable asset: Our humanity.

Why Not Theatre Company

Why Not Theatre Company is a professional theatre association founded in 2011. Today it is one of Denmark's leading professional, English-speaking theatres. Our mission is to tell captivating stories that are relevant, engaging and inspiring. We delve into texts of high literary quality and tell thoughtful stories that enthrall our audiences. We play exclusively in English in order to reach a wide audience with an interest in international performing arts. Why Not Theatre Company is known for successful performances such as *Vita and Virginia* at Café Teatret (2011) and *Teatret ved Sorte Hest* (2016), *Wit* at Bådteatret (2014), for which CPH Culture named Sue Hansen-Styles "Best Female Lead of the year" and the production 'Best Foreign Theatre of the Year', *Secrets* at Halmlager, and in recent years *The Art of Falling*, *Mairead*, *Dance with Me*, *The Cheyenne are Leaving* (for which our in-house writer Tanja Mastilo won the Reumert award for "Playwright of the Year" 2021) and *Happy Days* - all performed at Teatret ved Sorte Hest.

With best wishes,

Why Not Theatre Company

This production is generously supported by: William Demant Fonden, Knud Højgaard's Fond, Danske Dramatikeres Produktionspulje, Konsul Georg Jorck og Hustru Emma Jorck's Fond, I. F. Lemvig Müller's Fond.