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IWU School of Theatre Arts to present *Afraid of Frankenstein*

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November 2, 2001

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IWU School of Theatre Arts to present *Afraid of Frankenstein*

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--*Afraid of Frankenstein*, a comedy dealing with serious overtones, is an original play written and directed by Professor of Theatre Arts John Ficca. The show will be performed in the McPherson Theatre, 304 E. Graham St., Bloomington, and runs from November 13-17 at 8 p.m. There also will be a matinee performance on Nov. 18 at 2 p.m.

The premise of *Afraid of Frankenstein* centers around a troubled family when a mysterious lady from Italy suddenly appears on their doorsteps. Serving as the catalyst, the mysterious lady believes she can solve the family's problems, though she is running away from her own problems.

"The play deals with fear and dysfunction," said Ficca, "and as the mysterious lady says, 'All fears can be conquered.'"

Ficca, who has written a total of 9 plays, has been working on this play for a year and re-wrote most of it within the last month. He believes a trademark of good theatre is audience involvement and he hopes his play will be entertaining as well as make people think.

"There are serious subjects that the play deals with," said Ficca, "but I'm exploring them in a humorous way."

Afraid of Frankenstein features:

- Andrew Schneider, junior theatre arts major, Milwaukee Wis.
- Kristin Stewart, music theatre arts major, Martelle, IA.
- Brooke Kuchuris, senior theatre arts major, Ellyn, Ill.
- John Venerable, grandson of playwright and director Dr. Ficca, Chiddix Jr. High School, Bloomington, Ill.
- Kenneth E. Pierce, junior theatre arts major, Arden Hill, Minn.
- Lydia Abel, junior theatre arts major, Plainfield, Ill.
- Dominic A. Cattero, junior theatre arts major, Batavia, Ill.

Afraid of Frankenstein production staff includes:

- Stephanie Ehemann, junior business major, stage manager, Waukegan, Ill.
- Mark Kelly, sophomore theatre arts major, assistant stage manager, Chesterfield, Miss.
- Chris Heuman, sophomore theatre arts major, assistant scenic design, O'Fallon, Miss.
- Katharine Egan, junior theatre arts major, assistant costume design, Winneka, Ill.
- Phillip David Ocampo, music theatre major, assistant lighting design, Appleton, Wis.
- Alyssa DeCesari, senior theatre arts major, assistant sound designer

- Armella Thompson, technical director, School of Theatre Arts
- Brendan Hendrik, junior theatre arts major, assistant technical director, Bourbonnais, Ill.
- Mary Oster, senior english major, property master, Gurnee, Ill.
- Christina Hogg, music theatre major, assistant property master, Northbrook, Ill.
- Nicholas Hamel, sophomore theatre arts major, master carpenter, Iowa City, IA
- Tripp Burton, master electrician, School of Theatre Arts
- April Bieschke, sophomore art major, charge artist, Rockford, Ill.
- Dominic Cattero, junior theatre arts major, publicity coordinator, Batavia, Ill.
- Danielle Drogos, junior business major, publicity coordinator, Algonquin, Ill.
- Katie Kalahurka, sophomore music theatre major, run crew head, Kansas City, Miss.
- Stacy Barton, sophomore theatre arts major, wardrobe head, Hoffman Estates, Ill.
- Jeremy Schaefer, sophomore theatre arts major, sound board operator, Buffalo Grove, Ill.
- Haley Rice, sophomore theatre arts major, light board operator, Clarendon Hills, Ill.
- Megan Roskopf, senior theatre arts major, house manager, Jefferson City, Miss.
- Jarrod Smith, sophomore music theatre major, assistant house manager, Cedarburg, Wis.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the McPherson box office at 309/556-3232. Adult admission is \$5 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and for Sunday matinee, and \$8 for Thursday through Saturday. Seniors receive a dollar discount, and students with a valid ID are admitted for \$1.

For additional information, please contact the publicity coordinators for the School of Theatre Arts Danielle Drogos at 309/ 556-3442, or Dominic Cattero at 309/ 829-9082.