

## **Geva Theatre opens its 52nd Season with Mel Brooks' musical comedy, *Young Frankenstein***

**On stage September 25 - October 27**

**A Co-Production with Berkshire Theatre Group and Bay Street Theater**

**Rochester, N.Y.** — Geva Theatre kicks off its 52nd season with *Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein* on the Wilson Stage from September 25 - October 27. Brooks' comedic genius meets black and white horror movies in this electrifying musical comedy! This wildly inventive new production brings the hilarious antics of the screen sensation to life with unforgettable tunes such as "The Transylvania Mania," "He Vas My Boyfriend," and "Puttin' on the Ritz." Featuring music and lyrics by Mel Brooks and a book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan, this production is directed and choreographed by Gerry McIntyre. Tickets are on sale now; visit [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org) or call the Box Office at 585-232-GEVA(4382).

"I'm delighted to open our season with this laugh-out-loud funny production of *Young Frankenstein!*", said Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson. "This three-part co-production has delighted audiences in the Berkshires and Hamptons at Berkshire Theatre Group and Bay Street Theater, and we're so pleased to have them join us to usher in spooky season here in Rochester!"

### **The Creative Team:**

Director and Choreographer **Gerry McIntyre** (he/him) has won widespread acclaim for choreographing *Godspell* at Berkshire Theatre Group, the only Equity-sanctioned show in the country at the start of the pandemic. He is the Associate Artistic Director of the York Theatre and directed the regional premiere of *The Cher Show* at Ogunquit Playhouse. His credits span Off-Broadway and regional theatres across the country. Gerry is the choreographer of the hit Off-Broadway show *Spamilton*, and will be returning to Geva at the end of the season as the choreographer of *Beautiful*.

Joining McIntyre on the creative team are Music Director **Eric Svejcar** (NYMF Audience Award Winner), Scenic & Lighting Designer **Mike Billings** (he/him) (West End: Dreamworks' *The Prince of Egypt*), Costume Designer **Barbara Erin Delo** (she/her) (*The Bigot*, Off Broadway Premiere and *Beyond Babel*, Off Broadway Premiere), Sound Designer **Joanna Lynne Staub** (she/her) (Drama Desk-nominated Sound Designer, and a GRAMMY-nominated Recording Engineer), Projection Design by **Brad Peterson** (he/him) (*A Sign Of The Times*, Off-Broadway; *Cats*, Broadway Revival), Wig Design by **Liz Printz** (she/her) (*Legally Blonde*, The Muny; *COMPANY*, First National Tour). **Aaron A. Watson** (he/him) is the Production Stage Manager with Assistant Stage Managers **Julia Bregy** (she/her) and **Shannon Toot** (she/her), and Assistant Director **Nick Cearley** (he/him). Casting by **Murnane Casting**.

## **The Cast of *Young Frankenstein*:**

The production features **Aaron Choi** (he/him) as Inspector Hans Kemp/Hermit (North American tour of *Disney's Aladdin*), Broadway veteran **Veanne Cox** (she/her) as Frau Blücher (Broadway: *An American in Paris*, *Company*; Film: *Cinderella* (1997), with Whitney Houston and Brandy), **Matthew Hydzik** (he/him) as Dr. Frederick Frankenstein (Broadway: *The Cher Show*, *West Side Story*, *Grease*), **Chris McNiff** (he/him) as The Monster (National Tour: *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, *Memphis*), **James Romney** (he/they) as Igor (Broadway: *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child*, *Camelot*), **Kyla Stone** (she/her) as Inga (Broadway: *Harmony*, National Tour: *Anastasia*), **Aléna Watters** (she/her) as Elizabeth Benning (Broadway: *West Side Story*), and, as the ensemble, **Savannah Cooper** (she/her) (Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theatre), **Bradley Gibbins-Klein** (he/him) (International Tour: *Grease the Musical*), **Brady Miller** (he/him) (The Mundy, Goodspeed Musicals) and **Linda Neel** (she/her) (Gateway Playhouse, Ogunquit Playhouse), with Swings **Christina Emily Jackson** (she/her) (Broadway: *West Side Story*, *The Cher Show*, *Bad Cinderella*) and **Cullen J. Zeno** (he/him) (National Tour: *My Fair Lady*).

## **CONNECTIVITY AT GEVA: Programming presented with *Young Frankenstein***

### **Mondays at Geva | Monday, October 7, 6 - 8 p.m. • FREE**

For *Young Frankenstein*, Mondays at Geva features a Show & Tell about Monsters with Strong Museum of Play curator - Michelle Parnett-Dwyer. Parnette-Dwyer will provide insights and answer questions about Frankenstein and other Monsters in American popular play culture. Refreshments will be served.

### **Geva Insights | Tuesday, October 1, Following the Performance • FREE**

Immediately following the performance of *Young Frankenstein*, there will be an onstage, post-performance conversation with Dr. Melissa Bissonette, an associate professor of English at St. John Fisher University. She has published on *Frankenstein*, as well as eighteenth-century theater and drama.

## **TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

**When:** September 25 - October 27, 2024

**Where:** On the Wilson Stage, 75 Woodbury Boulevard, Rochester, New York 14607

**To Purchase:** Tickets may be purchased [online](#), by calling 585-232-GEVA(4382), or in person from the Box Office. *All prices, dates, and times are subject to change.*

**Accessibility:** Learn about our accessibility options [here](#).

**Media Kit:** Take a first look at the production [here](#).

Geva's 52nd Season is sponsored by ESL Federal Credit Union with Honorary Season Producer Dr. Dawn Lipson. Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein* is presented with support from Lead Producer Volvo Cars Rochester and Media Sponsors FOX Rochester and iHeart Media.

*Young Frankenstein (West End Version)* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

### **About Geva Theatre**

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs, and services of a national standard.

Geva offers a wide variety of educational, engagement, and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Geva Theatre sits on the ancestral and unceded territory of the O-non-dowa-gah, or "the people of the Great Hill." In English, they are known as the Seneca people, "the keeper of the western door." They have stewarded this land through generations, and Geva pays respect and gives thanks to their elders, past and present.

Geva is under the leadership of Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson and Executive Director James Haskins.

Find out more about Geva Theatre at [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org) or by connecting with us on social media. Facebook: [facebook.com/gevatheatrecenter](https://facebook.com/gevatheatrecenter), Twitter: [@gevatheatre](https://twitter.com/gevatheatre), Instagram: [@gevatheatre](https://instagram.com/gevatheatre), LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/geva-theatre-center](https://linkedin.com/company/geva-theatre-center).

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