



The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College

735 Anderson Hill Road • Purchase, New York 10577

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## **Manual Cinema brings a unique production of *Frankenstein* to The Purchase PAC *Just in time for Halloween***

**(Purchase, New York – September 30, 2024)** THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE will present Manual Cinema’s unique production of *Frankenstein* on Sunday, October 20, at 7pm, less than two weeks before Halloween.

Manual Cinema is a Chicago-based performance collective that imaginatively combines shadow puppetry, cinematic techniques, sound effects, and live music to create unique theatrical experiences.

In their retelling of the Gothic tale of Frankenstein, Manual Cinema stitches together the classic tale with the biography of the original novel’s author, Mary Shelley, to create an unexpected story about the beauty and horror of creation. The real-life and fictional narratives of Shelley, Victor Frankenstein, and Frankenstein’s monster expose how family, community, and education shape personhood – or destroy it by their absence.

The performance will be followed by a meet-the-artist encounter for the audience where they will be invited on stage to speak directly to the artists, handle the puppets, ask questions, and take photos.

Manual Cinema will also offer a hands-on shadow puppet workshop for students and residents of Broadview Senior Living will take place the day before the performance.

Tickets for Manual Cinema’s *Frankenstein* are affordably priced at \$40-\$20 and can be purchased on The Performing Arts Center’s website, [www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org). Tickets for children and students are always 50% off the regular price. This performance is recommended for ages 12 and up.

This engagement of Manual Cinema is made possible in part through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

### **About the artists**

[MANUAL CINEMA](#) is a performance collective, design studio, and film/video production company founded in 2010 by Drew Dir, Sarah Fornace, Ben Kauffman, Julia Miller, and Kyle Vegter. Manual Cinema combines handmade shadow puppetry, cinematic techniques, and innovative sound and music to create immersive visual stories for stage and screen. Using vintage overhead projectors, multiple screens, puppets, actors, live feed cameras, multi-channel sound design, and a live music

ensemble, Manual Cinema transforms the experience of attending the cinema and imbues it with liveness, ingenuity, and theatricality.

Manual Cinema practices a form of puppetry that they like to call “cinematic shadow puppetry.” A hybrid of theater, film, and puppetry, the process marries ancient principles of shadowplay with modern cinematography. It was developed using an instrument that is familiar to many seasoned shadow puppeteers: the old-school overhead projector, which can emulate the functions of a film camera and create cinematic montage. Most Manual Cinema performances integrate hundreds of paper shadow puppets and colored slides with actors performing in silhouette.

**Manual Cinema: *Frankenstein***

Sunday, October 20, 7pm

The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College

735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY 10577

**Tickets and more information:** <https://www.artscenter.org/events/manual-cinema-frankenstein/>

[Click here to download press images.](#)

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**The Purchase PAC’s 2024-2025 season** features a broad range of events by professional touring artists. It includes familiar audience favorites, Purchase alumni, innovative emerging artists, and opportunities for creative encounters and engagement. The 2024-2025 season will run from September through early May of 2025.

All performances will take place at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY 10577. Tickets and a complete season schedule are available on The Purchase PAC website at <https://www.artscenter.org/events/>.

*The Purchase PAC’s programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.*

*The Purchase PAC is proud to be a grantee of ArtsWestchester with funding made possible by Westchester County government with the support of County Executive George Latimer.*

*The Purchase PAC acknowledges with great appreciation our major funders and sponsors: PepsiCo, Inc., The Vivian and Seymour Milstein Endowed Fund, Lucille Werlinich, and the Bee Steinhaus Memorial Arts-in-Education Fund.*

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**[The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College](#)** (The Purchase PAC), “your home for extraordinary experiences,” is a four-theatre complex located on the campus of Purchase College, SUNY, is the major professional, non-profit arts presenter in the Southeastern New York–Southwestern Connecticut region.

The Purchase PAC has long been a hub for highly skilled artists, civic and academic leaders, community activists, and volunteers who recognize the power of investing in the performing arts to spark creativity and connection.

Through Education & Engagement programs, The Purchase PAC creates opportunities for local K -12 students and multi-generational learners to participate in the artistic process.

The Purchase PAC has a collaborative relationship with the campus population, hosting performances for the Conservatories of Music, Dance, and Theatre Arts. Purchase College students can take advantage of master classes, on-site training, internships, job opportunities, and ticket discounts.

An active facility rental business focuses on providing space and support to high-quality musical recordings, technical rehearsals, and community events.

The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College is a 2024 Best of Westchester award recipient (Best Theatre/Professional).

**Purchase College**, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY, is located 28 miles northeast of New York City at the Connecticut border. The College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY), is an institution of public higher education encompassing the liberal arts and sciences, professional training in the performing and visual arts, continuing education, the Neuberger Museum of Art, and The Performing Arts Center.

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