



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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Creation and destruction: The story of *Frankenstein*

By Yvonne Schofer, English Humanities Bibliographer

In her preface to the revised 1831 edition of *Frankenstein*, first published anonymously in 1818, Mary Shelley recorded that the idea for her Gothic tale of the supernatural came to her during a half-waking nightmare, "a Poet's reverie" outside of rational control, preparing her readers for a story arising from deep archetypal fears. Within a short time it entered Western consciousness as a powerful modern myth.

Technically an epistolary novel, this tale has long been regarded as the origin of modern science fiction. It can also be read as another version of the myth of the noble savage, in which a nature essentially good is corrupted by ill

treatment. It is also remarkable for its descriptions of nature, strongly influenced by the author's admiration for Wordsworth and Coleridge.

For nearly two centuries, it has had a powerful and enduring grip on the popular imagination. A wide range of cultural interpretations in a myriad of stage and film adaptations have often transcended the original textual variants and supplanted the novel in the public imagination. The very name Frankenstein is now widely understood to be that of the creature rather than its creators.

The traveling exhibit *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*, jointly organized by the National Library of Medicine and the American Library Association, will be hosted by the Department of Special Collections in Memorial Library from September 1 through October 15. Originally based upon a larger exhibit previously presented by the NLM and funded in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, it explores several themes of the timeless and sensational Frankenstein myth, raising critical questions about the nature of being "human" and connected with other living beings—social and individual responsibilities to members of the human

community, the role of science in civilization and culture, the use and abuse of scientific power and its implications for society, and the very meaning of "nature," as well as the issue of responsibility in the dissemination of scientific knowledge. The exhibit also highlights the metaphorical aspects of the novel, seen within the context of the literary, scientific, and early nineteenth-century political environment which influenced Mary Shelley, and the complexities of the monster.

Brought to life by a creator who

continued on page 10



The Edison Kinetogram, Vol. 2, No. 4. London: Edison Films, 1910. The film company created by inventor Thomas Edison released the first cinematic version of *Frankenstein*.

Learn more about it

■ *Following Frankenstein: Medical Science and the Monster in the 20th Century*
Susan Lederer, Yale University
Wednesday, September 15, 4 p.m.
(Please see Friends calendar inside.)

■ *Mary Shelley, Frankenstein, and the Sciences*
Maureen McLane, Harvard University
Thursday, October 7, 2004, 5 p.m.
Elvehjem Museum of Art, Room L140
800 University Avenue
Sponsored by the Center for the Humanities

■ *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein: A Mini-Conference*
Day-long symposium
Friday, October 8, 2004
6191 Helen C. White Hall
600 N. Park St.
Sponsored by the Center for the Humanities

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Board of Regents

From the president Books and reading

In this period of mid-summer,
it is tempting to procrastinate
in working on new sources of
financing for projects of the
Friends or methods of increasing
our membership. Those topics
will be at the top of our list in the fall.
Now, however, books and reading, which
are at the heart of our interest and
commitment, can claim a bit of extra
leisure or vacation time, and we may
finally confront volumes which had lain
unopened at the bedside and earlier been
put off.

As part of my own indulgence, I
browsed the new brochure *Books We
Liked*—an annotated list of forty books
especially enjoyed and recommended by
the university librarians. This eclectic
listing of fiction and nonfiction is notable
for its concentration (thirty-seven of
forty) on books written since 1990, and
includes wonderful suggestions of books
to be sampled and enjoyed. In thinking
back over a lifetime of reading, however,
one realizes that some of those books
which we most loved or were most
influential in shaping our thinking as we
grew up and lived our lives, were little
recognized by others at the time or were
soon dropped from the shelves of local
libraries and disappeared from the
collective consciousness.

We propose that you send us titles of
books which provided you with great



enjoyment or were of special
significance in your life. This
list will be edited, printed, and
made available to students,
and, of course, to the Friends.
We shall, thus, have access to
some of the treasures of our
friends and colleagues and
plenty of stimulus for

conversation at supper.

Please take time now to consider your
nomination of two or three books.
Provide the most accurate title and
bibliographic reference you can, as well as
two or three sentences describing the
content and significance to you of each
one. Consider especially those works
written prior to 1990, as these are least
likely to have been found by the
university students in their browsing.
Your contribution of titles should be
sent to:

William G. Reeder
Office of the Friends
990 Memorial Library
728 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

By return mail, as thanks for your
participation, we shall send you a copy
of the brochure *Books We Liked*.

Many activities are scheduled for the
coming fall. Please take time to mark
your calendars for events listed elsewhere
in this newsletter. We look forward to
your active participation; come and bring
your friends.

William G. Reeder

One more Friends membership benefit

Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries have access to Library Express, an online article
and book request service. Library Express allows users to request and track articles and
books in the library catalog for delivery to a specified UW-Madison Library.

Friends interested in using the service must go to Memorial Library, present their
Friends membership card, and request a library card. A \$2 per article convenience fee
will be charged for articles owned by campus libraries. Items that the libraries must
obtain from off campus remain free. For more information:

<http://www.library.wisc.edu/services/libexpress.htm>.

Ford Porter Collection

Music Library acquires renowned collection

Wisconsin has a rich tradition of regional ethnic music styles varying from Scandinavian “hop waltzes” to Polish obereks and German polkas, several of which flourished in the state during the first half of the twentieth century, a tradition reflected in the strong folk and ethnic music collections of the Mills Music Library. Many of these styles grew out of the nineteenth-century influx of Northern European immigrants and evolved in the dance halls and recording studios of the upper Midwest.

The Mills Music Library recently received from the estate of Ford Porter, a Milwaukee collector, approximately 60,000 recordings documenting and preserving the rich tradition of regional ethnic folk music in Wisconsin and other popular early twentieth-century music. The collection of 45s, 78s, LPs, eight-tracks, and cassettes includes polka, dance band, jazz, folk, and popular music of the period.

Porter’s enormous collection is the result of what Michael Corenthal’s 1986 book *Iconography of Recorded Sound* calls “the most extensive record manhunt known to Wisconsin.” For more than forty years during the middle of the twentieth century, Porter scoured farm auctions, secondhand stores and thrift shops, flea markets and caravans, railway salvages and churches for old recordings that he heard on the radio stations of western Wisconsin as a boy.

Numerous recordings in the Ford Porter Collection represent ethnic folk traditions unique to Wisconsin. Several of the first regional polka recording sessions included in the collection took place in Grafton, Wisconsin. The collection also contains recordings of Wisconsin folk musicians from Manitowoc, Hilbert, and Milwaukee.



Gifts donated as part of the Ford Porter Collection. Both the Decca and Okeh labels recorded early ethnic folk music styles in the Midwest. The album on the right was recorded by Freddie “Schnikelfritz” Fisher, whose band toured eastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin early in its careers.

As Porter’s collection grew, so did his reputation as a scholar of regional ethnic folk music. As this music genre grew during the 1940s and ‘50s with the advent of new recording facilities throughout Wisconsin, band leaders turned to Porter to hear rare arrangements no longer available to the general public. For example, Porter provided many of the original early recordings for the reissuing of Manitowoc (Wisconsin) native and Bohemian-Czech polka guru Romy Gosz’s entire repertoire.

Students of musical history will find in the Ford Porter Collection not only a broad introduction to Wisconsin’s folk music tradition, but also a survey of American vernacular and popular musical styles. The depth and breadth of the collection will allow ethnomusicology and folk culture scholars a rare opportunity to research music that has become increasingly difficult to find.

Search tools make research queries easier

Finding materials among millions of citations available through the UW–Madison Libraries is about to become more streamlined in the digital age. The libraries are adding two new, powerful search tools that enable users to locate and retrieve digital materials much more efficiently. The online search tools will be available on the UW–Madison Libraries Web site to faculty, students, and Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries from both UW–Madison and home computers.

■ **Find It** is a linking service that allows library users to follow a link from a citation in a searchable database to a menu of options for retrieving the full-text articles. The Find It menu provides direct Internet links, if the article is available online,

as well as other information, such as the libraries’ catalog records. For example, a library user searching for an article in *Modern Fiction Studies* with Find It will receive links to the full text and the UW–Madison Libraries catalog record.

■ **MetaLib** is a search device coming next year that will allow users to search across as many as ten databases simultaneously. For example, MetaLib will enable users to search for “Wisconsin environmental groups” in several databases, rather than search each database individually, and retrieve a merged set of results. It effectively allows patrons to search across millions of citations at once.

Grant preserves intellectual freedom collection

An important piece in the history of intellectual freedom issues in Wisconsin will be preserved due, in large part, to a grant from the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries.



Susan Brant in 1979 as president of the Wisconsin Intellectual Freedom Coalition.

The project grant to the School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library to process and preserve the Susan Brant/ Wisconsin Intellectual Freedom Coalition Collection was

one of fifteen Grants-to-Libraries in the 2004-05 academic year. The grant will allow the collection to be separated into categories and documented in library catalogs.

The School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library acquired the collection in May 2003 from Brant upon her retirement from Nicolet College in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. In collaboration with the Cooperative Children's Book Center, the School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library became the repository of the materials based on the history of research and advocacy related to intellectual freedom in Wisconsin.

The collection covers three primary areas: cases of censorship attempts in Wisconsin, organizational materials from the Wisconsin Intellectual Freedom Coalition, and Brant's educational materials.

The censorship cases range from intellectual freedom challenges in Wisconsin public libraries and schools to art exhibits in public spaces. The collection documents media coverage of challenges to materials in eighty-nine

cities across Wisconsin.

In 1979 Brant became president of the Wisconsin Intellectual Freedom Coalition, a group of several organizations that together addressed issues of intellectual freedom and provided support for Wisconsin libraries and schools. Materials from this area include requests by libraries and schools for intellectual freedom assistance, a project-map titled "Wisconsin Censorship Dateline: 1969-1982," and materials related to Brant's work with the American Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee. The educational materials also include subject files on issues and groups such as Wisconsin's Posse Comitatus, which Brant used for educational purposes.

The acquisition provides source materials for research on the history of intellectual freedom in Wisconsin, curricular materials for UW-Madison classes on intellectual freedom, and support for the School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library's mission as a "teaching laboratory" for SLIS students as they process the acquisition.

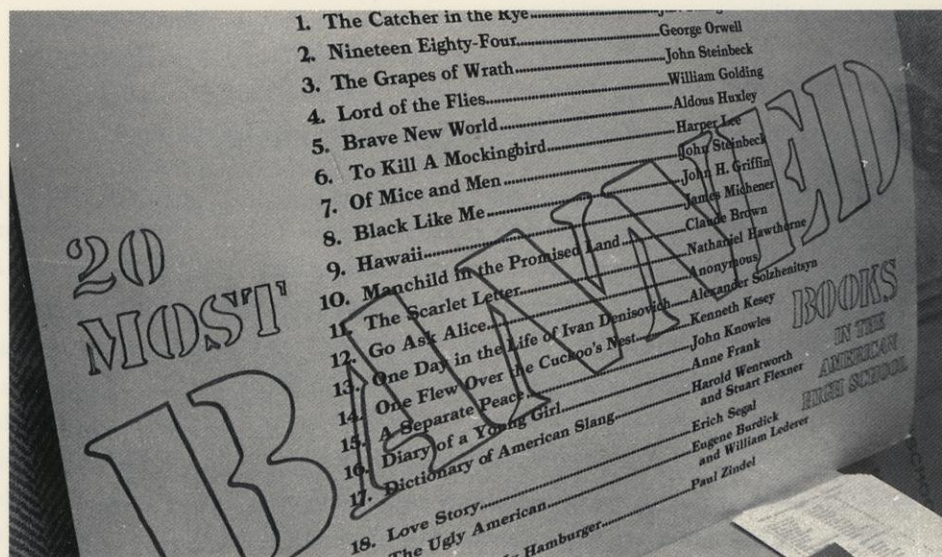
"The collection is Wisconsin-based;

Applications

The Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries are currently accepting applications for the 2005 Grants-to-Libraries program. The program is intended to fund small projects or purchases that are not otherwise supported through regular library budgets. In general, grant applications are limited to \$1,000 or less, although the Friends consider grants of higher amounts in special cases.

Awards are granted primarily for the preservation or conservation of existing collections and the acquisition of new materials. Proposals are selected based on the need for funding and the impact of a Friends grant on library services. For application information, please contact Thomas H. Garver, Friends liaison, 608-265-2505; e-mail: friends@library.wisc.edu.

intellectually this is the right home for these materials," said Michele Besant, SLIS Laboratory Library director. "Intellectual freedom and libraries are inseparable; this collection and the grant from the Friends make certain that this broad range of voices will be preserved."



"20 Most Banned Books in the American High School" placard from the Susan Brant Collection, School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library.

2004 Grants-to-Libraries

Each year, the Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries award grants to UW–Madison campus libraries and library units. These grant projects are funded on the basis of competitive scholarly proposals, which are evaluated by a committee of five board members and voted on by the full board of directors. This year the board of directors approved fifteen grant proposals.

American Indian Studies Library

- Purchase Native American videos and books

Memorial Library Preservation

- Purchase two preservation environment monitors

Special Collections

- Purchase three preservation environment monitors

Kohler Art Library

- Purchase Julie Chen limited edition "artist book"
- Purchase Johanna Drucker and Brad Freeman limited edition "artist book"

Mills Music Library

- Digitizing copies of Wisconsin composers' music and related imprints
- Re-mastering audiotapes of Upper Midwest folk music performances

Humanities—English

- Index preparation for Little Magazine Collection in Special Collections

Humanities—European History

- Acquisition of additional CDs for the Vatican Registers Collection
- Purchase back volumes of Method and Theory in the Study of Religion

University Archives

- Digitize and preserve early UW–Madison campus plans and maps

School of Library and Information Studies Laboratory Library

- Organization and preservation of Wisconsin intellectual freedom documents

Women's Studies Library

- Purchase reference books related to women's issues

Letters & Sciences Learning

Support Services

- Purchase multimedia teaching materials in various world languages

Plant Pathology Library

- Purchase non-journal plant pathology and physiology publications

College Library

- Purchase books by Wisconsin Book Festival authors for the Open Book Collection

Social Sciences

- Purchase reference volumes on German constitutional law

Biology Library

- Continue preservation of Biology Library Rare Book Collection materials

Friends Grant-in-Aid program brings international scholars to campus libraries

Recent Grants-in-Aid from the Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries will bring scholars from Israel, Finland, and Spain to conduct research at Memorial Library this fall, adding to a list of former scholars that includes researchers from Australia, Italy, Russia and Spain.

The Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries award a small number of grants each year designed to provide access to the UW–Madison Libraries to scholars who live beyond commuting distance. These grants, each one month in duration, foster awareness of the rich and diverse resources of the UW–Madison Libraries and generate increased scholarly

use of the existing holdings in Special Collections and other specialized research collections of the libraries.

This year the Friends will provide partial financial support for nine visiting scholars, three in collaboration with the Mosse Program in the UW–Madison Department of History.

Current Grant-in-Aid scholar

Sharon Gordon, an Israeli citizen and doctoral candidate at the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture at Leipzig University, is studying the perceptions and experiences of those who converted from Judaism to Christianity in the German-speaking world between 1890 and 1914.

Coming Grant-in-Aid scholars

Vasileios Syros, post-doctoral fellow at the Catholic University of Leuven in Leuven, Belgium, but currently working at the University of Helsinki, will research the idea of the mixed constitution in Renaissance Venice, in particular the political philosophy of Cardinal Gasparo Contarini (1483-1542), a papal diplomat.

Ignacio Fernandez de Mata, professor at the University of Burgos in Burgos, Spain, will conduct research on anti-fascist groups during the Spanish Civil War for a project titled "The Excluded People From History: Victims of the Spanish Civil War. An Ethno-Historical Study."

calendar of events

Following *Frankenstein*: Medical Science and the Monster in the 20th Century



Susan Lederer, Associate Professor of History of Medicine at Yale University
Wednesday, September 15, 4 p.m.
(Note time)
126 Memorial Library

Susan Lederer, who curated the exhibit *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*, will speak about Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* and the contents of the exhibit. Her lecture is sponsored by the History of Medicine Department and the Friends of the Libraries.

Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature features six sections dealing with the literary, scientific, and political context in which the novel was created; ethical questions the novel raises; interpretations and distortions of the story in various media since the novel's publication; and the contrasts between science as conducted in the novel and as pursued in the twenty-first century. The traveling exhibit was developed by the National Library of Medicine and the American Library Association and made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Library of Medicine.

FELIX: A Series of New Writing



Tuesday, September 21, 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

The first fall event in the FELIX series will feature readings by three poets: Bob Harrison, co-editor of the Milwaukee/ New York journal *Crayon*; William Allegrezza, editor of the online journal *Moria*; and Steve Timm, an ESL instructor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Named after Felix Pollak (1909-1987), poet and former curator of Special Collections, this developing reading series invites original, young writers in the area to provide a forum for conversation on the role of "little magazines" in literary culture and their evolution.



Memorial Library Fiftieth Anniversary Musical Performance

Monday, September 27, 4:30 p.m.
Petrovich Reading Room
212 Memorial Library

In September 2003, UW-Madison's Memorial Library celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. To commemorate the event, Mills Music Library received a grant to commission five original musical compositions by graduate students Pavel

Polanco-Safadit, Davies Dies, Scott Gendel, Alex NoHai Seaman, and Jerry Hui from the School of Music composition program.

The event will include performances by Mimmi Fulmer, Les Thimmig, and other musicians of the School of Music, as well as text by two Madison poets, one written for the occasion, and one written by a librarian, that celebrate the library, its collections, its staff, and its users.

ellsworth Snyder, composer and music director emeritus of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, is emcee for the program and a reception follows the performance.

Genius and Place: Lynn Fontanne, Alfred Lunt and Life at Ten Chimneys



Margot Peters, Biographer and Former Professor of English at UW-Whitewater
Thursday, September 30, 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

When Broadway legends Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne took a break from New York city theater life, they would retire to Ten Chimneys, their estate in Genesee Depot, Wisconsin. Throughout their careers, Ten Chimneys served as a quiet refuge where plays could be written, reworked, and honed before the fall theater season. It was also a place where the Lunts would entertain a long list of theater friends, including Noel Coward, Helen Hayes, Laurence Olivier, and Vivien Leigh, among others.

Margot Peters, author of *Design for Living: Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne*

(2003), will explore the interaction between artists and their milieu, with emphasis on Alfred Lunt, Lynn Fontanne, and their artistic circle at Ten Chimneys.



Tour of Ten Chimneys

Saturday, October 2

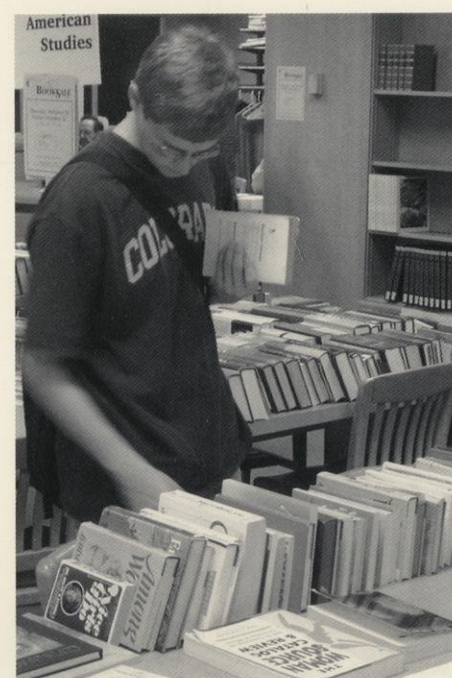
Through the work of the Ten Chimneys Foundation, the historic furnishings, hand-painted murals, personal décor, and diverse collections of the Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne summer home in Genesee Depot, Wisconsin, have been preserved and opened to the public for tours. Recently dedicated as a National Historic Landmark, Ten Chimneys offers a personal view into the lives of these Broadway legends and the artistic group that surrounded them.

This tour for the members of the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries and their guests by prior reservation will travel to Genesee Depot and take part in a guided tour of the estate's main house, cottage, and studio theater. Please contact the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries at 608-265-2505 or e-mail: Friends@library.wisc.edu for reservations.

Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries Semiannual Book Sale

Wednesday through Saturday, October 6 - 9
116 Memorial Library

Come and explore the Friends semiannual book sale, the single-largest used book sale in Wisconsin. Students, faculty, staff, and Madison residents donate materials ranging from philosophy and literature to science and reference texts. Proceeds from the fund-raiser help support the Friends Grant-in-Aid program for visiting scholars, a grant program for campus libraries, and other programming. In addition, 10 percent of the proceeds are transferred to the Friends endowment. To donate books or volunteer for the Friends spring book sale, please call 608-265-2505 or e-mail the Friends at Friends@library.wisc.edu.



- *Wednesday, Preview sale* (\$5 entry)
5 - 9 p.m.
- *Thursday - Friday, Regular sale* (No entry fee)
10:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- *Saturday, \$2-a-Bag Sale* (Bring your own bag or buy one for \$1)
10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

FELIX: A Series of New Writing



Monday, October 11, 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

The second event of the fall FELIX series will bring together two poets from outside of the Wisconsin area to read their work and discuss "little magazines."

Sawako Nakayasu was born in Yokohama, Japan, and has lived primarily in the United States since the age of six. In addition to poetry, Nakayasu writes prose and performance text, and translates from Japanese to English. She edits *Factorial* and the translation section of *HOW2*.

Hermine Meinhard is the poetry editor of *3rd bed* and teaches poetry and creative writing at New York University. Her work has appeared in *HOW2*, *Sonora Review*, and *The Prose Poem*, among others.

Named after Felix Pollak (1909-1987), poet and former curator of Special Collections, this developing series invites original, young writers in the area to provide a forum for conversation on the role of "little magazines" in today's literary culture.

Chicago, the Architectural City: From Fort Dearborn to Millennium Park



Jane Harshaw Clarke, Adjunct Lecturer at The Art Institute of Chicago
Thursday, October 14, 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

Over the course of 200 years, Chicago has grown from a tiny frontier fort to one of the world's most beautiful cities, famous for its architecture since the late nineteenth century. Jane Harshaw Clarke, adjunct lecturer at The Art Institute of Chicago and contributor to the 1990 book *The Sky's the Limit: A Century of Chicago Skyscrapers*, will highlight the great periods in Chicago's architectural history, from

the First Chicago School of the late nineteenth century through the set-back skyscrapers of the 1920s and into the International Style of the postwar years. Her lecture will conclude with an introduction to the city's recent architectural addition, Millennium Park.

Wood Engraving, Illustration, and Art



Andrew Stevens, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, Elvehjem Museum of Art, UW-Madison
Thursday, November 18, 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

Originally created as a method of printing illustrations alongside text, wood engraving once enjoyed a

prominent place in the book arts. Over time, wood engraving was gradually replaced by photographic illustration, and wood engravers were forced to explore new methods of expression. The development brought about the rise of extraordinary handmade books illustrated with the now-exalted craft of wood engraving, earning the medium its status as an art form in its own right.

Andrew Stevens from the Elvehjem Museum will discuss the mechanics of wood engraving and the work of artists often overlooked in this aspect of the book arts. He will also show beautiful examples of wood engraving throughout the history of the book arts.

Special Collections to exhibit history of religion in print

A small exhibit running September 7-30 titled *Religion and the Culture of Print* will draw from several strengths in Special Collections. These include the Tank Collection with its materials on Dutch Protestant thought of the sixteenth through the eighteenth century, French Protestant theological pamphlets of the same period, titles pertaining to a nineteenth-century religion based on Saint-Simon's principles for improving the welfare of the poor, free thought titles from the Freedom from Religion Foundation, and the Science and

Religion Collection donated by Ronald Numbers, professor of history of medicine and history of science.

The exhibit will be shown in conjunction with the conference "Religion and the Culture of Print in America," September 10-11, 2004, which is sponsored by the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America. The center is a joint project of the Wisconsin Historical Society and UW-Madison. The exhibit can be seen weekdays from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 980 Memorial Library.



From *A descriptive and critical catalogue of works illustrated by Thomas and John Bewick, wood engravers of Newcastle-on-Tyne*. London: John Gray Bell, 1851. Special Collections, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Biology Library

Biology Library holds wealth of treasures

Nestled in the basement of Birge Hall atop Bascom Hill's southern slope lies the UW–Madison Biology Library, a collection of resources that hold some of the most fascinating volumes in the vast general science holdings of UW–Madison Libraries.

An unusual aspect of the Biology Library is the rare book room—the only such collection held by a branch library in the UW–Madison General Library System. The collection houses beautiful botanical and zoological monographs from the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries, a number of nineteenth-century journals and a complete run of the *Zoological Record*.

The Biology Library was created during a period of university expansion in the late 1930s, when the collections housed in old Science Hall were divided into more specialized fields and moved closer to their respective departments. The Biology Library remained a departmental library until 1941, when it was integrated into the UW–Madison General Library System. The library continued expanding to the point where, according to a 1948 report on the UW–Madison branch libraries, all of the branch libraries were out of space and “the Biology collection was in part stored in the hallway.”

All of this changed in 1980 when a building addition to Birge Hall increased classroom space as well as provided a permanent home for the library and the Wisconsin State Herbarium. With this addition, the Biology Library became a unique reference point for biology students on campus, particularly students and scholars of botany. Patrons can consult serials and reference volumes in the main biology collections as well as in the Biology Rare Book Room, and then apply this research in the herbarium one floor above.

The combination of the Biology Library and the herbarium's plant specimens underscores one of the strengths of the Biology Library — its strong holding of floras.

Floras are taxonomic inventories of plant species related to geographical location. The reference texts cover a vast spectrum of species from the wild tulips of Cyprus to the local lichens of Wisconsin. This collection has been used by generations of faculty and students for research projects in biological systematics, phytogeography, and ecology.

The library has particularly thorough holdings in ornithology, a collection that is part of the general reference and instructional zoology resources and holds the major campus collection of non-applied zoology materials.

Today the library holds more than 52,000 volumes and serves more than 30,000 visitors a year.



“*Orchis militaris* L.” from *Flora Danica*. Hafniae (Copenhagen): Typis Claudii Philiberti, 1766–1883.

Call for book donations to the Friends semiannual book sale

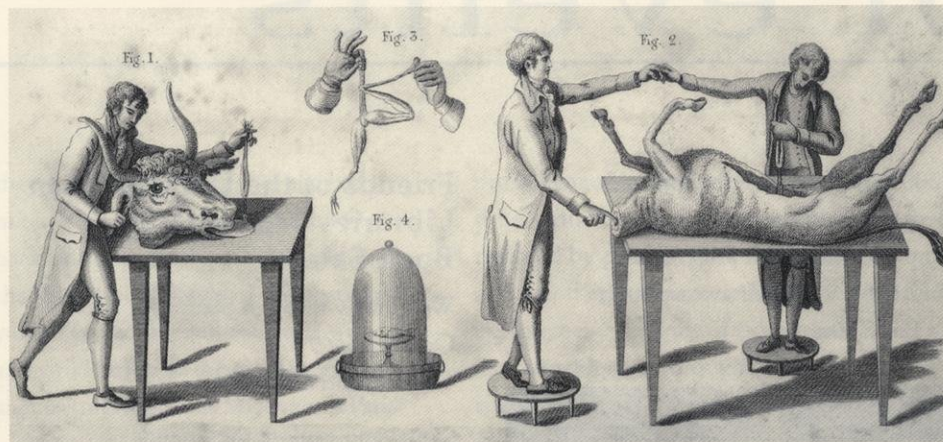
The Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries are accepting book donations for the fall semiannual book sale to be held Wednesday, October 6, through Saturday, October 9. Donations in all subjects are accepted and may be placed in the “Open Return” book drops located in most UW–Madison Libraries. Materials may also be dropped off at the Lake Street dock of Memorial Library weekdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. To arrange for book pickups or for more information contact the Friends, (608) 265–2505; e-mail: Friends@library.wisc.edu.

Frankenstein *continued from page one*

cannot love him, born sensitive and yearning for acceptance, the monster is compelled to turn to hate and revenge as the only possible way to connect with his maker. Passages from the novel illuminate the dilemmas raised by Victor Frankenstein's ability to create life and his failure to take responsibility for what he has created.

Other themes include: the focus of scientific development and experimentation in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries on reanimation and resuscitation of the dead, the belief in the ability of science to solve the world's problems, the interpretations and distortions of the story in various media and in popular culture, the continuing debate over bioethics, and our society's obsession with technological solutions to difficult moral and ethical dilemmas.

The fascination with *Frankenstein* endures because it is impossible to assign any single meaning to the story. Once underestimated as a work of literature,



Artist Unknown. From *An Account of the Late Improvements in Galvanism*. London: Cuthell and Martin, 1803. While she wrote *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley was well aware of the science of "galvanism," the administering of electricity to the bodies of decapitated animals and humans to produce physical movements.

the novel is now receiving serious consideration in academic environments. It is hoped that the exhibit will encourage viewers to engage in re-discovery and another close reading of its moving text.

Other displays, drawn from Special Collections' rich history of science and literature collections and the new Ebling

Library, will complement the traveling exhibit, providing a historical context to the unusual life of Mary Shelley. Famous by parentage and marriage, she was a novelist, travel writer, and editor of husband Percy Shelley's poetry who remained true to herself in her desire to learn and understand. Her tale of horror still has resounding significance.

Friends news

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