Lecture to accompany the 2018 John Martin Rare Book Room Open House. Frankenstein Open House displays following the lecture 5:00-8:00 in Room 446.



Peter Balestrieri

Curator, Science Fiction and Popular Culture Collections Specials Collections, University Libraries

Curating Frankenstein

Thursday, March 22, 2018 4:00-5:00

Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, Room 401

As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the publication of Mary Shelley's,

Frankenstein, it is gratifying to see the wealth of material in University of Iowa Main Library's Special Collections relating to the creation, publication, and legacy of the book. Some examples are Shelley letters, a first edition of John Polidori's, The Vampyre, a letter and an "angry father" essay by Mary Shelley's father, William Godwin, the autobiography of Frankenstein's publisher, Lackington, and a number of fine press editions of the novel with marvelous illustrations by Barry Moser and others. In this talk, I will highlight these and other holdings and relate some anecdotes that surround what many critics believe to be the first science fiction novel.



Illustration by Barry Moser

If you are a person with a disability requiring an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Donna Hirst, Hardin Library for the Health Sciences (donna-hirst@uiowa.edu), 335-9154. The UI History of Medicine Society website is located at: http://hosted.lib.uiowa.edu/histmed/