

Footlights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

The New Mel Brooks Musical

YIPPEE *Frankenstein*

November 11th thru
December 17th 2016



Directed & Choreographed by **Alison Mattiza**

Musical Direction by **Catherine Rahm** Produced by **Lori A. Marple-Pereslete**

Westchester Playhouse • 8301 Hindry Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90045

310-645-5156 | kentwoodplayers.org

The New Mel Brooks Musical
YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN
Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan
Music and Lyrics by Mel Brooks
Original Direction & Choreography by Susan Stroman
“Puttin’ on the Ritz” by Irving Berlin

Director/Choreographer
Alison Mattiza

Musical Director
Catherine Rahm

Assistant Director
Valerie Ruel

Producer
Lori Marple-Pereslete

Set Design
**Shawn K.
Summerer**

Lighting Design
Robert Davis

Sound Design
Bill Navarro

Costume Design
Daniel Kruger

Cast

Dr. Frederick Frankenstein	Jesse D. Saywell
The Monster	Seth Freed
Igor	Steffan Scrogan
Inga	Elizabeth A. Bouton
Elizabeth Benning	Esmé Brown
Frau Blücher	Dana Weisman
Inspector Hans Kemp	Peter Miller
Blind Hermit	Jim Witoszynski
Dr. Victor Von Frankenstein	Michael Berckart
Ziggy	Roy Okida
Dance Captain / Ensemble	Jessie Harrison
Ensemble	Mark Bruce-Casares
Ensemble	Francesca Farina
Ensemble	Samuel Goldman
Ensemble	Lynn Gutstadt
Ensemble	Brett Lark
Ensemble	Fiona Okida
Ensemble	Lyndsay Palmer
Ensemble	Kim Peterson

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019
Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Musical Numbers

Act One

The Happiest Town in Town.....	Villagers
The Brain.....	Frederick, Students
Please Don't Touch Me.....	Elizabeth, Frederick, Travelers
Together Again for the First Time	Igor, Frederick
Roll in the Hay	Inga, Frederick, Igor
Join the Family Business.....	Victor, Frankenstein Family
He Vas My Boyfriend	Frau Blucher
The Law.....	Inspector Kemp, Villagers
Life, Life.....	Frederick, Inga, Igor, Frau Blucher, Ensemble
Welcome to Transylvania.....	Inspector Kemp, Village Quartet
Transylvania Mania.....	Igor, Frederick, Inga, Villagers

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.

Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission courtesy of Kentwood Players.

Act Two

He's Loose.....	Inspector Kemp, Villagers
Listen to Your Heart.....	Inga
Surprise.....	Elizabeth, Igor, Frau Blucher, Entourage
Please Send Me Someone	Hermit
Man About Town	Frederick
Puttin' on the Ritz*	Frederick, Monster, Inga, Igor, Ensemble
Deep Love	Elizabeth
Hang the Doctor	Inspector Kemp, Villagers
Frederick's Soliloquy	Frederick
Deep Love (Reprise)	Monster, All
Finale.....	Frederick, All

* "Puttin' on the Ritz" Words & Music by Irving Berlin © 1928, 1929 by Irving Berlin (ASCAP) © Renewed

Musicians

Conductor/Keyboard I.....	Mike Walker
Keyboard II	Virginia Pettis
Violin/Flute/Alto Flute/Piccolo.....	Colleen Okida
Percussion.....	Sandy Nitchman, Debbie Minichelli

About the Cast



Michael Berckart (Dr. Victor Von Frankenstein) – is grateful to Kentwood Players for creating an amazing space to return to his musical comedy roots, passion and sanity. After a 23-year hiatus, he was dared in 2010 to perform in any show and check-in with his heart. He found himself cast as Harry McAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie* at Montclair College Prep in Van Nuys. Since then he has completed the core classes of the UCB Training Center and performs with a Musical Improv team. Michael has recently been accepted and training with the Actor's Gang in Culver City. Michael is a certified Life Coach, finally enrolling in his own program of Following Your Bliss.



Elizabeth A. Bouton (Inga) – was last seen as Miss Tweed in *Something's Afoot!* Other Kentwood musical credits include Agnes Gooch in *Mame*, The Witch in *Into the Woods*, Nancy in *Oliver!*, Lucille Frank in *Parade*, Edwin Drood in *Edwin Drood*, Molly Brown in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, Gabby/Bobbi in *City of Angels*, and Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*. Many thanks to Ali, Cat and Lori for the opportunity and kudos to this very talented cast and crew! Love SKS - FLAMES MM!



Esmé Brown (Elizabeth Benning) – is a recent graduate from Loyola Marymount University with a B.A. in Theatre Arts. She is an actor and singer born and raised in Los Angeles. Esmé has been a great lover of musical theatre ever since her Papi and Abue introduced her to it when she was three years old. It has been her dream ever since to be on the stage. This is her first show with the Kentwood Players, and she is very excited to be a part of this cast. Thank you to all family and friends for your love and support. Besos!



Mark Bruce-Casares (Ensemble) – is delighted to be performing in *Young Frankenstein*. He was last seen in *Mame* as Uncle Jeff, his first show with Kentwood Players. Many thanks to Alison and Catherine for this madcap experience! Mark has been seen over the years pounding the boards throughout Central and Southern California. Favorite shows in which he's performed include *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Once Upon a Mattress*, among others. He dedicates his performance to the memory of his mother, and thanks his husband, David, for his ongoing love and support.



Francesca Farina (Ensemble) – has been acting on the stage since she was six. Some of her previous roles include Annie (*Annie*), Helen Keller (*The Miracle Worker*), Young Helen (*Hollywood Arms*), and Charlie Bucket (*Willy Wonka*). Francesca has been seen hosting on the red carpet at the Creative Arts Emmys for KidStar Radio Network, where the renowned host of 'Inside the Actors Studio' James Lipton remarked, "You are a better interviewer than I am." Francesca recently performed with her high school choir at Notre Dame Cathedral, Disneyland Paris, and on Broadway with the Aladdin show. She's happy to be working with Alison, Catherine, and the crew and cast.



Seth Freed (The Monster) – As you will soon see, Seth had far too many green tea lattes this morning. An LA native, he has spent the last several years doing numerous plays, musicals, and operas here. During that time he has trained in acting with several reputable LA theaters, danced for three years at Glendale Community College, and become a classical tenor. His future goals include pursuing professional theater on the east coast and owning a ramen restaurant. Favorite past roles include Leaf Coneybear (*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), Marley (*A Christmas Carol*), Petruchio (*Taming of the Shrew*), and Richard Dauntless (*Ruddigore*).



Samuel Goldman (Ensemble) – was last seen with Kentwood Players in *Man of La Mancha*. He has worked with numerous theater groups throughout Los Angeles, most recently in Long Beach Playhouse's *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Samuel also works as an extra in TV and film, including *This Is Us*, *NCIS: Los Angeles*, *The Goldbergs*, and *The Middle*. He also had a featured role as the Ventriloquist Counselor on Netflix's *Wet Hot American Summer: First Day of Camp*. Samuel would like to thank the cast and crew, and his family and friends for their support.



Lynn Gutstadt (Ensemble) – is thrilled to be in *Young Frankenstein*! She most recently appeared in Kentwood productions of *Something's Afoot* (Dr. Grayburn) and *Mame* (Sally Cato, Ensemble). Favorite past roles include Maggie in *42nd Street*, Hildy in *On the Town*, and Gladys in *Pajama Game*. Behind the scenes she has served as Stage Manager for *Ravenscroft*, Assistant Stage Manager for *Clybourne Park*, and recently joined the KP Board of Directors as Treasurer. Lynn has a B.A. in Theater from UC Riverside and an M.A. in Communication Research from Stanford University. Love and thanks to Patrick and Megan for tolerating another show schedule!



Jessie Harrison (Dance Captain / Ensemble) – is thrilled to be returning to the Westchester Playhouse stage, having previously appeared in *Mame!* Favorite credits include *The Sound of Music* (Liesl), *Oklahoma* (Laurey), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tzeitel), and *Annie* (Grace Farrell). Jessie is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University where she studied Theatre Arts and Marketing. She was also a proud member of the LMU Music Department and traveled around the world performing with the LMU choirs. Jessie sends love and thanks to her family and friends for their never-ending support. Enjoy the show, and WELCOME TO PENNSYLVANIA!



Brett Lark (Ensemble) – has enjoyed theater since he was a young boy but only recently has gotten serious about his film and stage career since 2016. Brett most recently performed as Tarzan in *Disney's Tarzan the Musical* in Denver 2016. As a cancer survivor and an avid life enthusiast Brett is ready to live out his dream of acting. He loves theater and acting in general and is happy that he has the opportunity to make the performing arts his life's work!



Peter Miller (Inspector Hans Kemp) – seems to have made Westchester Playhouse his home base over the last decade or so having appeared in quite a few shows here during that time. Peter was just seen as The Padre in *Man of La Mancha* as well as Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He was also The Lecturer in *Reefer Madness* in Orange County. Peter is also a voice actor and is also playing the offstage narrator in *Get Smart*, which will be running at the Huntington Beach Playhouse concurrently with *Young Frankenstein*.



Fiona Okida (Ensemble) – Fiona has grown up at Kentwood, and she has finally graduated to high heels for *Young Frankenstein!* Her last Kentwood show (on stage) was *Fiddler on the Roof* (Bielke), but she has since been backstage for *Into the Woods*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Mame*, *Something's Afoot*, and *Clybourne Park*. Her first Kentwood show was *Candide*, followed by *The Miracle Worker*, *Ragtime*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Mr. Potcher's Holiday*, and *Fiddler*. Thanks to Alison, Cat, and Daniel. Special thanks to Bitty for the high-heeled tap shoes!



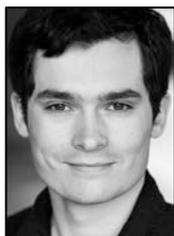
Roy Okida (Ziggy) – Roy is excited to finally be playing a role in *Young Frankenstein* he was born to play—the village idiot. His other Westchester credits include *Funny Thing Happened*, *West Side Story*, *Parade*, *Candide*, *Ragtime*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Into the Woods*, *Mame*, and *Something's Afoot*. Roy thanks Alison and Cat for letting him sing and dance in this show and the talented cast for all the laughs. He's also thrilled to be in this show with his daughter, Fiona, and his wife, Colleen, who is playing in the pit. Enjoy the show!



Lyndsay Palmer (Ensemble) – *Young Frankenstein* marks Lyndsay's first show with Kentwood Players and first show in LA after a long absence. She spent the intervening years in her home town of Denver playing such roles as Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*, The Mute in *The Fantasticks* (which also toured to Osaka, Japan), Chava in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Cory in *Barefoot in the Park*, Mary in *It's a Wonderful Life*, Shelby in *Steel Magnolias*, and Sarah Brown in *Guys & Dolls*. She misses her theatre home in Denver, but she's thrilled she found the Kentwood Players and thanks the cast, crew and her husband.



Kim Peterson (Ensemble) – is thrilled to be back at Westchester. She recently performed on this stage in *Something's Afoot* as Lady Grace and *Into the Woods* as Cinderella's Stepmother. Kim has performed in LA regional theatres for over 25 years. Credits: *Into the Woods* (Witch), *Anything Goes* (Reno), *Joseph* (Narrator), *Robber Bridegroom* (Salome), *Chorus Line* (Sheila and Maggie), *Cabaret* (Fraulein Kost), *Sound of Music* (Mother Abbess and Elsa Shraeder), *Annie* (Miss Hannigan), *Forum*, (Domina), and *Whorehouse* (Ginger). Kim thanks Ali and Cat for giving her this opportunity and for their dedication and amazing talent.



Jesse D. Saywell (Dr. Frederick Frankenstein) – is thrilled to make his Los Angeles debut after moving from Washington D.C.! Favorite credits: *Sweeney Todd* (Pirelli) Red Branch Theatre Company; *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus) Kensington Arts Theatre; *Children of Eden in Concert!* (Ensemble) Kennedy Center; *Enchanted April*, *A New Musical* (Beppo – Original Workshop Cast) Arena Stage; *RENT* (Angel) Rockville Musical Theater. Jesse is an alumni of American University with a B.A. in Musical Theatre. He performs in memory of his mother, Joan Saywell (1951-2014), and encourages satisfied audiences to consider donating to the American Parkinson Disease Association.



Steffan Scrogan (Igor) – is very recently new to Los Angeles from Colorado by way of Orlando. Favorite past credits include: *Avenue Q* (Rod), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf), *A Chorus Line* (Mike), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Jimmy). During the daytime you can find him working as a 3D artist and animator, and at night you can find him asleep in bed.



Dana Weisman (Frau Blücher) – is delighted to perform again with Kentwood Players after appearing as Lettie in *Something's Afoot*. Some favorite regional roles include Fruma Sarah (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Maria (*Metropolis*), and Robin (“Day by Day”) in *Godspell*. As a member of Angel City Chorale, Dana soloed in the Los Angeles debut of Grammy award-winner Christopher Tin’s “The Drop That Contained The Sea”. Dana is a proud graduate of NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts (Circle in the Square studio) and NYC’s High School of Music and Art. Huge hugs and heaps of appreciation to husband Jon and to children, Lilah, Casey and Dashiell.



Jim Witoszynski (Blind Hermit) – has been acting around LA for 25 years. He was last seen at Kentwood in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Radio Play*. Thanks to Alison, Lori, Catherine, the cast for putting together a great show and letting me play along, and to the audiences for coming to our show and sharing the magic of theater with us.



About the Directorial Staff

Alison Mattiza (Director/Choreographer) – is THRILLED about this show!! This marks Alison’s second directing project at Kentwood, having directed *California Suite* in 2013. Alison has choreographed many shows at Kentwood and other theaters including *Something's Afoot*, *Anything Goes*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *The Music Man*, *Godspell*, and *Into the Woods*. Alison has been a proud member of Kentwood for over 20 years and has enjoyed performing, producing, working backstage as well as being on the board. Thank you so much to Cat, Shawn, Lori and Valerie and all of the people who have helped put this show together. Also, thank you to her son Jack for being awesome and especially to West for his amazing artistic talents and incredible support.

Catherine Rahm (Musical Director) – had a scary good time teaching this crazy score to this wonderful cast. Hope you all have a spooktacular time in Transylvania, which is “considered both a death and a tourist trap.”

Valerie Ruel (Assistant Director) – When not on stage, Valerie is also at home behind the scenes. Her most recent projects include costume design for *Wait Until Dark* and directing *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Valerie is happy to be assisting Alison and working with this talented cast in bringing this show “to life.”

About the Producer

Lori A. Marple-Pereslete (Producer) – has been a Kentwood member for 15 years and currently serving as Production Manager and Kentwood's Properties Mistress. She won Producer of the Year for *Into the Woods* and has produced many Kentwood productions including *Something's Afoot*, *Mame*, *Sordid Lives*, *The 39 Steps* and *Candide*. When not producing, Lori can usually be found backstage building and decorating sets, stage managing, or assisting other theatres in searching for props. She's very excited to be working with such a talented cast and production team. She hopes you enjoy the show. Thanks to Tony for being a wonderful husband!

About the Designers

Shawn K. Summerer (Set Design) – Originally from Michigan, Shawn got his start in theatre playing “The Letter K” in preschool. He received his BFA in Film Writing from USC and is currently represented by Circle of 10 Talent. This is Shawn's second set, having also designed *California Suite* in 2013. He has also directed three shows at Kentwood including *Dracula* in 2010, *The Miracle Worker* in 2012, and *Into the Woods* in 2014. As an actor, his favorite roles include Smudge in *Forever Plaid*, Pedro in *Man of La Mancha*, David in *Company*, and Tommy in *Annie Get Your Gun*. DOORBELL.

Robert Davis (Lighting Design) – is thrilled to return to the Westchester Playhouse to design for *Young Frankenstein*. Recent SoCal lighting credits include *I Love You Because* at GTC in Burbank, *Copenhagen* at The Attic, *Play It Again, Sam* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre, as well as *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*, *Into the Woods*, *Sordid Lives*, and *California Suite* here at the Westchester Playhouse. Robert holds a BFA in Theatre Arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. When not hanging lights from the rafters, he busies himself narrating audiobooks. Much love to JP, always.

Bill Navarro (Sound Design) – has over thirty years of experience in radio, television and movies. He has voiced characters for the Little Lulu and Captain Future cartoons. He has worked sound for *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid*, *The Man with Two Brains*; *Young Warriors*, *Distortions*, and *Dismembered*. Back in the '70s he helped produced the then rock and role KRLA Radio Series “The Credibility Gap” and was a network announcer for KYPA Radio, heard on seven station across the country.

Daniel Kruger (Costume Design) – is excited to “Join the Family Business” for his first costume venture with Kentwood Players. Daniel was one of the original costumers for Universal Studios Hollywood *Halloween Horror Nights*. He has also won a Drama-Logue Award for Best Costume Design for the South Bay CLO's production of *Cabaret*. Some of his favorites shows that he has costumed are; *Gigi*, *West Side Story*, *Damn Yankees*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Li'l Abner*, and *Annie* to name a few. A special thank you to Alison for instilling the “Transylvania Mania” in me, and to Kim and Sheridan for ALL their assistance. And “Deep Love” to the entire cast and crew for making this production “The Happiest Show in Town”.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I grew up watching Mel Brooks movies and TV shows: *Blazing Saddles*, *High Anxiety*, "Get Smart", *Robin Hood Men in Tights*, just to name a few. Brooks has always pushed the envelope of comedy. He thinks outside the box and has created comedy magic sometimes based on very unlikely subject matter. His work spans decades, and he hasn't stopped yet. He's who I want to be when I grow up!

In fact, so many of the performers in the 1974 movie *Young Frankenstein* are people that I idolized growing up. Cloris Leachman, Teri Garr, and Madeline Kahn are just a few of the comic geniuses in the movie that I love to watch whenever I have the chance. And what can I say about the incredible Gene Wilder? He was an amazing actor and comedian who could portray funny, romantic, touching and sometimes crazy practically all at the same time. I recall watching *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* every Thanksgiving when it was on TV and just being mesmerized by him.

It is my goal with this production to embody the classic humor of the movie while still providing our own unique twist on this wonderful tale. I am truly honored to have had the pleasure of working with every single person involved with this production. We have assembled an extremely talented team of performers, designers and crew who have worked tirelessly to put this show up on the Kentwood stage and keep you entertained for the next 2 hours or so.

Sit back, relax and enjoy!

Alison Mattiza
November 2016

KENTWOOD PLAYERS are PUTTING ON THE HIT!

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Lyrics by **SCROGAN**

Costume Designer **WEISMAN BROWN**

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Directed and Choreographed for the stage by **Alison Mattiza**

Musical Director **Catherine Rahm**

Produced by **Lori H. Maple Proscite**

YOUNG Frankenstein

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Art by West Maatita

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Amy Witkowski
Assistant Stage Manager	Ellen Taurich
Script Supervisor	Valerie Ruel
Booth Crew	Phil Iadevaia, Jerilynn Kacena, Kirk Larson, Melvin Miller, Megan O'Heffernan
Set Decoration Design	Lori Marple Pereslete
Original Graphic/Lobby Design	West Maatita
Master Builders	Doug Carlson, Jim Crawford, Shawn K. Summerer
Set Construction	Sheldon Cohen, Terry Delegeane, George Kondreck, Ben Lupejkis, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Roy Okida, Tony Pereslete, Cathy Picker, Red Rahm, Jim Witoszynski
Set Painting	Lynn Gutstadt, West Maatita, Lori Marple-Pereslete Alison Mattiza, Elizabeth Summerer, Jim Witoszynski
Scenic Painting	Janine Anderson
Costume Coordinators	Sheridan Cole, Kim Peterson
Costume Assistance	Anne Klafter
Wig Design	Jon Sparks
Makeup and Hair	Margie Equihua, Arlene Cohen
Properties	Sheridan Cole
Publicity Photos	Shari Barrett
Audition Assistance	James Manley Green, Colleen Okida, Tony Pereslete, Max Stormes
Hospitality Coordinator	Gail Bernardi
Box Office	April Kacena

Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Nicki Baric, Samantha Barrios, Michael Berckart, Barbara Brophey, Stanley Brown, Mark Bruce-Casares, Doug Carlson, Sheridan Cole, Jim Crawford, Robert Davis, Terry Delegeane, Margie Equihua, Francesca Farina, Gypsy Foster, Vada Foster, Seth Freed, Samuel Goldman, Michael Grinde, Lynn Gutstadt, Barbara Haberman, Jessie Harrison, Diane Hazen, Hutton Hazen, Glen Kacena, Anne Klafter, Myron Klafter, George Kondreck, Daniel Kruger, Kowalsky Lucien, Gretchen Luna, Ben Lupejkis, Lori Marple-Pereslete, West Maatita, Alison Mattiza, Dillon McKenzie, Jean Michels, Melvin Miller, Peter Miller, Alfredo Ochoa, Colleen Okida, Fiona Okida, Roy Okida, Marie Olivas, Lyndsay Palmer, Dave Parke, Tony Pereslete, Kim Peterson, Natalie Peterson, Ron Peterson, Valerie Ruel, Debbie Sadlouskos, Jesse Saywell, Steffan Scrogan, Bruce Starrett, Martha Sievert, Elizabeth Bouton Summerer, Shawn K. Summerer, Dana Weisman, Jim Witoszynski

Special Thanks

Doug Carlson, Jamie Dawley, West Maatita, Shawn K. Summerer, Jim Witoszynski



This production is dedicated to the memory Gene Wilder.

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There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.
Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.

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You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website
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at the time reservations are made.

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

The Imaginary Invalid, a Comedy
by Molière
January 13 – February 18, 2017
Director: Susan Stangl

Big Fish, A New Musical
Book by John August
Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
March 17 – April 22, 2017
Director: Catherine Rahm

Good People, a Dramatic Comedy
by David Lindsay-Abaire
May 12 – June 17, 2017
Director: Gail Bernardi

The Gingerbread Lady, a Dramatic Comedy
by Neil Simon
July 14 – August 19, 2017
Director: Drew Fitzsimmons

Farragut North, a Political Thriller
by Brett Willimon
September 8 – October 14, 2017
Director: Sherry Coon

To Be Announced
November 10 – December 16, 2017

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