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**Center for Puppetry Arts Presents the return of The Ghastly Dreadfuls, October 12-29**

An Atlanta Halloween tradition celebrates 10 years of ghoulish delights

**ATLANTA (September 21, 2016) –** ***The Ghastly Dreadfuls*** returns to the **Center for Puppetry Arts, October 12-29** for a 10th season of spine-tingling storytelling with a cast of characters that has made it an Atlanta cult classic. Artistic director Jon Ludwig describes the evening as, “a kind of dark vaudeville with a variety of performance styles and sensibilities. There’s really something for everybody.” The evening is a compendium of ghost stories and spectacle with puppets, live music and dance.

*The Ghastly Dreadfuls* haunts the stage with some fan favorites (including *11:59, Grim Grinning Ghosts* and *The Girl in the New Dress)*, and a new piece, *The Horrific Experiment: A Grand Guignol,* by Andre de Lorde and Alfred Binet, adapted by Richard J Hand and Michael Wilson. A turn-of-the-century genre of horror theatre that originated in France, Grand Guignol*,* was famously gory and darkly provocative. Grand Guignol productions specialized in graphic, naturalistic imagery intended to shock and provoke audiences. In *The Horrific Experiment,* a doctor and his assistant go to gruesome extremes to bring his daughter back to life.

Winner of the **2012 UNIMA Citation of Excellence Award** and created by Jon Ludwig and Jason Hines, *The Ghastly Dreadfuls* rises again this seasonwith a huge variety of characters, stories and songs created for fans **ages 18 and up**. This show isn’t for those who take life (or death) too seriously. The eerie stories, spooky songs and devilish dances will take audiences to a world beyond this mortal plane.

A beer and wine bar will be open before the show and during intermission.

Tickets are **$18.75 (Members)** and **$25 (Nonmembers)** and include entry to the performance and museum. Tickets are available at [www.puppet.org](http://www.puppet.org) or by calling 404-873-3391.

***Worlds of Puppetry* Museum**

The all-inclusive ticket also admits patrons to the Center’s *Worlds of Puppetry* Museum featuring the Jim Henson and Global collections. The Henson collection is the largest collection of Henson puppets and artifacts in the world. Also on display (and included with an all-inclusive ticket or a museum-only ticket) is a special exhibit, *Jim Henson’s Labyrinth: Journey to Goblin City-A Special 30th Anniversary Celebration.*

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**The Center for Puppetry Arts is supported in part by:** Fulton County Arts Council • City of Atlanta Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs • Georgia Council for the Arts • Zeist Foundation • The Wish Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta • PNC •  Aetna Foundation • The Coca-Cola Foundation • Regency Suites Hotel • WSB-TV Family 2 Family Project • YP • For a complete list of the Center’s major supporters, visit [www.puppet.org/about/sponsors.shtml](http://www.puppet.org/about/sponsors.shtml).

*Center for Puppetry Arts® is a unique cultural treasure – a magical place where children and adults are educated, enlightened, and entertained. Since 1978, the Center has introduced millions of visitors to the wonder and art of puppetry and has touched the lives of many through enchanting performances, curriculum-based workshops, and the hands-on Museum as well as Distance Learning and Outreach programs. Center for Puppetry Arts is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and is supported in part by contributions from corporations, foundations, government agencies, and individuals. Major funding is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council, and by the City of Atlanta Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs. These programs are also supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA is a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Center is a member of Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA/USA/ASSITEJ) and serves as headquarters of UNIMA-USA, the American branch of Union Internationale de la Marionnette, the international puppetry organization.*