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***The Ghastly Dreadfuls* return to the Center for Puppetry Arts, October 11-28**

Atlanta Halloween tradition awakens from the dead for spooky delights

**ATLANTA (August 22, 2017) –** ***The Ghastly Dreadfuls*** return from the afterlife at **Center for Puppetry Arts, October 11-28** for another season of supernatural storytelling with a chilling 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 consists of a plethora of ghost stories and spectacles with puppets, live music and dance.

*The Ghastly Dreadfuls* saunter to the stage with frightful fan favorites including *11:59, Grim Grinning Ghosts* and *The Girl in the New Dress*. The show will also feature the most recent addition *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 in 2006, *The Ghastly Dreadfuls* rises again this seasonwith a variety of creepy characters, scream-worthy stories and scary songs created for fans **ages 18 and up**. This show isn’t for those who take life (or death) too seriously.

Performances will take place at 8 p.m. in the Downstairs Theater. A beer and wine bar will be open before the show and during intermission.

Tickets are **$18.25 (Members)** and **$24.50 (Nonmembers) plus sales tax.** Tickets include entry to the performance and museum and 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.

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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 • The Zeist Foundation • The Jim Henson Company

For a complete list of the Center’s major supporters visit [www.puppet.org/about/sponsors](http://www.puppet.org/about/sponsors).

*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 and 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).The Center also serves as headquarters of UNIMA-USA, the American branch of Union Internationale de la Marionnette, the international puppetry organization.*