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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 14, 2007

## **PARADOX Media Presents the Edwardian Ball Weekend 2008**

**The Edwardian Ball Weekend 2008** ushers in a new chapter in turn-of-the-century revival! This year the beloved San Francisco event expands its homage of esteemed author/illustrator Edward Gorey to **three glorious nights** including The World's Faire, The Edwardian Ball, and "Sunday Gorey Sunday" Variety Night, all at the Great American Music Hall.

Once a coveted secret of San Francisco clubgoers, The Edwardian Ball has, in its eight-year history, blossomed like a midnight rose into an internationally renowned, award-winning weekend-long event. Devotees from Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, and even London make their annual pilgrimage to this immersive weekend of music, theatre, literature, fine art, fashion, aerial acrobatics, burlesque cabaret, and ballroom dancing. Participants queue up for their turn in the portrait studio and eye each other approvingly as each and every person stepping into the Gorey-filled Edwardian world becomes part of the show.

Ticket sales quietly launched on Halloween night and a buying frenzy quickly ensued. As of early December tickets for Saturday's Edwardian Ball are quickly approaching sellout, with many buyers opting for the limited-quantity weekend-long VIP Ticket that includes free ballroom dance lessons and an invitation to a Thursday night soiree with the cast, crew, and creators of The Edwardian Ball Weekend.

*"A crowd of top hats, tails, corseted dresses, men dressed as Death and women dressed as bats, with a number of powdered faces and outrageously teased hair, gathered outside the Great American Music Hall for The Edwardian Ball." – SF Chronicle*

And now, a night-by-night guide to the festivities...

### **Fri January 25<sup>th</sup> – The first-ever EDWARDIAN WORLD'S FAIRE**

The World's Faire returns to San Francisco! Experience four grand exhibition zones amidst a stunningly costumed crowd, mesmerizing stage show, and interactive demonstrations of the latest and greatest the World has to offer. Featuring *The Exhibition of Technology* presented by steampunk visionaries **Kinetic Steam Works**, *The Fashion Bizarre* presented by **Dark Garden** and Paradox Media, *Wonders of The Natural World* presented by **Paxton Gate**, and *The Edwardian Hall of Fine Arts*. Also featuring stage performances by **Rube Waddell**, **The Nekyia**, and **The Unextraordinary Gentlemen**, a "Victorian synth-punk band since 1887" making their Bay Area debut.

### **Sat January 26<sup>th</sup> – THE EIGHTH ANNUAL EDWARDIAN BALL**

The crown jewel in The Edwardian Ball Weekend shines for an unparalleled night of Edwardian-era Costume Ball meets Edward Gorey celebration! From the moment doors open you are

transported to another time amidst the most finely costumed crowd this side of 1910, as elegant ladies and gentlemen take to the floor for ballroom dancing to the tunes of DJ Delachaux. Gorey's stories come to life with original scoring and choreography by Ball creators **Rosin Coven** and co-hosts **Vau de Vire Society**. "Belle of The Ball" **Jill Tracy** seduces the crowd with her macabre musical beauty, and Edwardian ballroom dance instructors **Vima Dance** hit the stage for sultry Midnight Burlesque, followed by late-night modern dancing favorites by SF Goth queen **Miz Margo**.

### **Sun January 27<sup>th</sup> – SUNDAY GOREY SUNDAY Edwardian Variety Night**

Our second annual Edwardian Variety Night presents a wild collection of Gorey-inspired music, dance, puppetry, acrobatics, storytelling, fashion, and vaudevillian cabaret. Featuring **Eric McFadden**, the legendary soundtrack to San Francisco's **Dark Kabaret**, the junkyard mélange of **Vermillion Lies**, Gorey stories brought to life by the teen prodigies of **City Circus**, corsetry queens **Dark Garden**, and the **Fou Fou Ha!** dancing clowns, cameos by the **Vau de Vire Society**, and of course, enough room in the night to welcome the unexpected.

The Edwardian Ball 2008 is sponsored by Fernet-Branca, thanks to Infinium Spirits [www.infiniumspirits.com](http://www.infiniumspirits.com). Also thanks to The Onion, San Francisco at [www.theonion.com](http://www.theonion.com).

Information, photos, links, and press at [www.edwardianball.com](http://www.edwardianball.com)

All shows all ages (6+), doors and show at 8:00pm.

Information-only phone line 415.435.7527

Venue information at [www.gamh.com](http://www.gamh.com)

Tickets \$20 Friday, \$30 Saturday, \$18 Sunday.

Limited quantity VIP weekend pass \$63.

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