



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

College of Arts & Humanities
Department of Art & Art History
University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

PRESS INFORMATION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Musings of Mystery and Alphabets of Agony: The Work of Edward Gorey

University of Hawai'i Art Gallery
Art Building, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
September 26 – December 10, 2010

The University of Hawai'i Art Gallery in collaboration with the University of Hawai'i Library presents work by celebrated, prolific American author and artist Edward Gorey (1925–2000), revered for his distinctly elegant, enigmatic, and eerie black and white illustrations. This exhibition features over 700 books, book jackets, prints, posters, original drawings, postcards, handmade dolls, and other ephemera from the John A. Carollo - Edward Gorey Collection in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library's Special Research Collections, with special loans courtesy of The Edward Gorey Charitable Trust, New York City and the Edward Gorey House, Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts.

Through poetical prose and short narratives with obsessively crosshatched drawings, Gorey invented a gothic world of Victorian/Edwardian interiors and remote landscapes with stylishly dressed characters entangled in provocative and humorous tales of mystery, peril, and bizarre twists of fate. His mischievous children, incredible creatures, and nonsensical plots and parody amuse and delight readers around the world.

This exhibition honors Edward Gorey who left a legacy of over one hundred authored books and more than 80 books that he illustrated for others. His devotion towards literary works, cinema, George Balanchine's New York City Ballet, and to animals and his



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cats is legendary. Gorey's influence is international with his works translated in 15 languages. His words and images have inspired many writers, visual artists, musicians, and filmmakers to create compositions, interpretive theatrical productions, graphic design, and animations.

SPONSORS

Sponsored by the University of Hawai'i Department of Art and Art History and the College of Arts and Humanities and University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library; supported by grants from the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities; and by the "We the People" initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts; Rianna M. Williams, and anonymous donors. Additional support by University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Outreach College, Department of Music, and Department of English; The Mānoa Foundation; Mānoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing; Hawai'i State Public Library System; Barnes & Noble Booksellers; Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day; and Mānoa Arts & Minds, a partnership that cultivates the mind and spotlights the best of art, music, theater, dance and special performances at UH Mānoa.

http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/chancellor/arts_minds/

Special Acknowledgement:

All Images Courtesy & © The Edward Gorey Charitable Trust

The Edward Gorey House

OPENING PROGRAM – UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I ART GALLERY

Sunday, September 26

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Keynote speaker: **Andreas Brown**, Co-Trustee of The Edward Gorey Charitable Trust and President and owner of the literary and cultural landmark Gotham Book Mart in Manhattan, New York City for 41 years. Brown discusses Edward Gorey, his career, friendship and professional relationship.

OPENING RECEPTION

With performances by The Mānoa Readers / Theatre Ensemble

Follows program – 5:00 p.m.

HOURS AND ADMISSION

Monday – Friday 10:30 – 5:00; Sunday 12:00 – 5:00.

Closed: Saturdays; November 2, Election Day; November 11, Veterans Day; and November 25 & 26, Thanksgiving Day.

Admission is free. Donations are appreciated. Parking fees may apply.

Honoring Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day on Sept. 26.

FREE SPECIAL GALLERY TOURS

Sundays, October 3 – December 5, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Tours led by John A. Carollo, Collector and Donor of the John A. Carollo - Edward Gorey Collection in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library's Special Research Collections on Oct. 3, 17, 31, Nov. 14, 28.

Tours led by Lisa Yoshihara, Director, UH Art Gallery; Dr. Joseph Stanton, Humanities Scholar, UHM; or UH Art Gallery staff on Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 21, Dec. 5.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

All events are free and open to the public. Seating for events, films, and performances are on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional events may be added. The schedule of events may be subject to change. Parking fees may apply.

For the latest information and more details go to <http://www.hawaii.edu/artgallery/> or call 808-956-6888.

Art Building, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Panel Discussion - *Looking for Edward Gorey: life in Cape Cod, the legacy of his museum, a director's personal friendship, the passion of a lifetime collector, and the interpretation of a scholar.*

Thursday, November 4, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

UHM Art Auditorium

Panelists:

Rick Jones, Director & Curator, Edward Gorey House, Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts

John Carollo, Collector and Donor, John A. Carollo - Edward Gorey Collection in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library's Special Research Collections

Dr. Joseph Stanton, Humanities Scholar, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Moderator: **Lisa Yoshihara**, Director, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Film Series – *An Edward Gorey Film Festival*

UHM Art Auditorium

Edward Gorey was inspired by the vast range of books and films that he voraciously consumed from silent classics, mystery, thrillers, and pop culture. The films selected include his favorites such as Louis Feuillade's *Les Vampires* and *Alfred Hitchcock's The Lady Vanishes*. Others were selected for similarities that can be seen in the characters, stories, and dark humor. Each film is preceded by a short educational presentation.

Sunday, October 3, 3:30 p.m.

Les Vampires, by Louis Feuillade (Writer / director, 1873–1925), (122 min., unrated)

Chatsworth, CA: Image Entertainment [distributor] Water Bearer Films, 2000.

Cast: Musidora, Édouard Mathé, Marcel Lévesque, Jean Aymé, Fernand Hermann, Stacia Napierkowska, Renée Carl.

Notes: Silent film with music score and English titles, originally produced as French silent black-and-white motion picture by the Gaumont Co., Ltd. in Paris and released as a motion picture in 1916. Color tinted in authentic period style. Four of 10 parts will be shown:

1. The Severed Head (33 min.)
2. The Ring That Kills (15 min.)

more ...

3. The Red Code Book (42 min.)

4. The Spectre (32 min.)

Summary: Describes the achievements of Les Vampires, a secret society of criminals led by Irma Vep. The gang uses kidnapping, poisonous gas, heavy artillery, sexual domination and murder to gain power over the elite of Paris.

Sunday, October 10, 3:30 p.m.

Murder on the Orient Express, directed by Sidney Lumet, (128 min., rated PG)

Hollywood, CA: Paramount, 1974.

Cast: Albert Finney, Lauren Bacall, Ingrid Bergén, Martin Balsam, Jacqueline Bisset, Jean-Pierre Cassel, Sean Connery, John Gielgud, Wendy Hiller, Anthony Perkins, Vanessa Redgrave, Rachel Roberts, Richard Widmark, Michael York.

Notes: Based on a book by Agatha Christie. Screenplay, Paul Dehn; producers John Brabourne and Richard B. Goodwin; photographer, Geoffrey Unsworth; editor, Anne V. Coates; music, Richard Rodney Bennett.

Summary: Detective Hercule Poirot agrees to interview all aboard the Calais Coach of the Orient Express hoping to find the killer of an American millionaire before the local police arrive.

Sunday, October 17, 3:30 p.m.

The Lady Vanishes, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, (97 min., unrated)

Gaumont British Films, MGM, 20th Century Fox, 1938.

Cast: Margaret Lockwood, Michael Redgrave, Paul Lukas, Dame May Whitty, Cecil Parker, Linden Travers, Mary Clare.

Notes: Based on the novel *The Wheel Spins* by Ethel Lina White. Originally released as motion picture in 1938. Screenplay by Sydney Gilliat and Frank Launder; producer, Edward Black; director of photography, Jack Cox; editor, R.E. Dearing; musical director, Louis Levy.

Summary: Enroute back to England by train from Switzerland, an old lady disappears and two young people investigate.

Sunday, October 24, 3:30 p.m.

Dracula, directed by John Badham, (109 min., rated R)

Universal City, CA: MCA Home Video, 1986.

Cast: Frank Langella, Laurence Olivier, Donald Pleasence, Kate Nelligan.

Notes: From the novel of the same title by Bram Stoker. Based on the stage play by Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston. Executive producer, Marvin Mirisch; screenplay, W.D. Richter; music, John Williams; special visual effects, Albert Whitlock.

Summary: Throughout history Dracula has filled the hearts of men with terror and the hearts of women with desire. This stylish new production of the classic gothic horror tale stars Frank Langella, repeating his electrifying award-winning stage performance as the blood-thirsty Count, and Laurence Olivier as the devout vampire hunter Von Helsing who is Dracula's nemesis. A great cast, fine direction, and a superbly atmospheric musical score make this the ultimate Dracula.

Sunday, October 31, 3:30 p.m.

The Nightmare Before Christmas, produced by Tim Burton & Denise di Novi, (76 min., rated PG)

Burbank, CA: Touchstone Pictures, 1993.

Cast: Voices of Danny Elfman, Chris Sarandon, Catherine O'Hara, William Hickey, Glenn Shadix, Paul Reubens, Ken Page.

Notes: Based on a story and characters by Tim Burton. Music, Danny Elfman; director Henry Selick; screenplay, Caroline Thompson.

Summary: The story of Jack Skellington, the pumpkin king, who decides to bring the magic of Christmas back to Halloween Town.

Sunday, October 31, 6:15 p.m.

The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, directed and written by Stephan Elliot, (103 min., rated R)

Los Angeles, CA: PolyGram Filmed Entertainment, 1994.

Cast: Terence Stamp, Hugo Weaving, Guy Pearce, Bill Hunter.

Notes: Producers, Al Clark and Michael Hamlyn; director of photography, Brian J. Breheny; film editor, Sue Blainey; music, Guy Gross.

Summary: With a contract to perform a drag show way out in the Australian desert, Tick, Adam, and Ralph each has his own reason for wanting to leave the safety of Sydney. Christening their battered pink tour bus "Priscilla," this wickedly funny and high-drama trio heads for the outback and into crazy adventures in even crazier outfits.

Miss D. Awdrey-Gore presents: *An Edward Gorey Haunted Mystery Family Soirée*, a Halloween Party and UHM Homecoming Event

Fun and educational art activities, scavenger hunt, costume contests and prizes for kids and adults, gallery tour, and 2 movies! Come in costumes! Bring your camera!

Sunday, October 31, 12:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Ground floor, UHM Art Building

11:30 – 6:30 p.m. Food by Papa Lucks—sandwiches, pastries, snacks, beverages

12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Educational activities

12:00 – 6:00 p.m. UH Art Gallery open

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Gallery tour with John A. Carollo, Collector and Donor

2:30 p.m. Costume parade and contest for children

3:30 p.m. *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (PG)

5:15 p.m. The Mānoa Readers / Theatre Ensemble performance

5:45 p.m. Costume parade and contest for adults

6:15 p.m. *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (R)

The Mānoa Readers / Theatre Ensemble

Presents curious and enigmatic interpretations from the writings of Edward Gorey

Ascending Peculiarities, Wuggly Umps, Nosebleeds and Other Happenings: The Sublime, Absurd and Mystical Mr. Gorey

Directed by Tim Slaughter, Director, Community Services Division, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Outreach College

A Special Performance

Friday, October 22, 7:30 p.m.

Music Building, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Orvis Auditorium

Additional performances

September 26, opening reception, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 31, 5:15 p.m.

University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

The Mānoa Readers / Theatre Ensemble productions are sponsored by Outreach College, The Mānoa Foundation, and *Mānoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing*, with further support from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Department of English.

Hawai'i State Library Events, 478 S. King St.

The following presentations may be repeated at public libraries in communities on O'ahu. For updated information check <http://www.hawaii.edu/artgallery/>

Reading Room Events, First Floor

Thursday, October 7, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Lecture - *The Dangerous Alphabets of Edward Gorey*

by Dr. Joseph Stanton, Humanities Scholar, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Teenagers through adults

Thursday, October 14, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Lecture - *Unleashing Creativity with Alphabets of Nonsense and Creatures of Imagination*

by Lisa Yoshihara, Director, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Demonstration - *Create Your Own Simple Book*

by Shannon Leitch, Curatorial Graduate Assistant, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Ages 10+ years and up; Participants will make their own book and can fill it with their drawings and texts inspired by Edward Gorey.

Saturday, November 6, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Demonstration - *Musings Over Manga: Exploring Edward Gorey's Techniques Through Comics*

by Brady Evans, Exhibition Intern, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Ages 10+ years and up; Sketch along with the artist and expand your manga drawing skills!

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Saturday, November 20, 12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Demonstration - ***A Strange and Untimely Alphabet Revealed Through Line: Drawing Inspiration from Edward Gorey's The Gashlycrumb Tinies***

by Shannon Leitch, Curatorial Graduate Assistant, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Ages 10+ years and up; Construct an alphabet book, draw your own Gorey-esque figures using crosshatching and reveal your own dark and unexpected tale!

Thursday, December 9, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Demonstration - ***Form, Light, and Crosshatching***

by James Kuroda, Senior Exhibit Specialist, Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Ages 10+ years and up; Participants will draw and complete a character using crosshatching!

Hawai'i State Library Exhibitions, Reading Room Display Case

November 1 – 13

Drawings Inspired by Edward Gorey's The Chinese Obelisk

by Brady Evans, Exhibition Intern, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

November 15 – 27

Drawings Inspired by Edward Gorey's The Gashlycrumb Tinies

by Shannon Leitch, Curatorial Graduate Assistant, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

November 29 – December 11

Drawings Inspired by Edward Gorey's Figbash Acrobat

by James Kuroda, Senior Exhibit Specialist, Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Edna Allyn Room for Children Events, First Floor

Saturdays, October 2 & November 13, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Reading and craft activity - ***An Edward Gorey Children's Story Time***

by UH Art Gallery staff and friends

Pre-schoolers through 7 years

more ...

Events at Public Libraries on O'ahu

For updated information check <http://www.hawaii.edu/artgallery/>

Demonstration - ***Create Your Own Simple Book***

by Shannon Leitch, Curatorial Graduate Assistant, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Ages 10+ years and up; under 10 accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, Oct. 9, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Kapolei Public Library

Monday, Oct. 18, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Kalihi-Palama Public Library Auditorium

Wednesday Oct. 20, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Liliha Public Library

Demonstration - ***Musings Over Manga: Exploring Edward Gorey's Techniques Through Comics***

by Brady Evans, Exhibition Intern, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery

Ages 10+ years and up; Sketch along with the artist and expand your manga drawing skills!

Monday, Oct. 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Kaimuki Public Library

Reading and craft activity - ***An Edward Gorey Children's Story Time***

by UH Art Gallery staff and friends

Pre-schoolers through 7 years

Saturday, Oct. 9, 10:30 – 11:00 p.m.

Kapolei Public Library

Saturday, Nov. 27, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Kailua Public Library

Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Ala Moana

Saturday, October 23, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Demonstration – **Gorey News!**

by Teri Skillman, Events and Communications Coordinator, University of Hawai'i Library

Pre-schoolers and up, hands-on postcard activity for children

Saturday, October 30, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Lecture - ***The Dangerous Alphabets of Edward Gorey***

by Dr. Joseph Stanton, Humanities Scholar, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Teenagers through adults

PUBLICITY PHOTOS

High-resolution digital images are available upon request.

WEBSITE

An educational website will be developed for ***Musings of Mystery and Alphabets of Agony: The Work of Edward Gorey***. Please visit the University of Hawai'i Art Gallery website <http://www.hawaii.edu/artgallery> for more information.

University of Hawai'i System

Established in 1907 and fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the University of Hawai'i is the state's sole public system of higher education. The UH System provides an array of undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees and community programs on 10 campuses and through educational, training, and research centers across the state. UH enrolls more than 50,000 students from Hawaii, the U.S. mainland, and around the world. For more information visit www.hawaii.edu.

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