



# Edward Gorey House Museum

Grand Premiere 2002

Text and photos by Kambriel

*In the past, we have reviewed exhibitions and lamented the loss of the great Edward Gorey, author of numerous books and plays, costume and set designer, and illustrator of the opening credits for the PBS "Mystery" series.*

*Now we are pleased to announce the opening of the Edward Gorey House Museum on Cape Cod in Massachusetts.*

Located in the former home of the late Mr. Gorey, this museum offers insight into the life of this remarkable artist, as well as sharing a large amount of his work and personal effects. Items on display range from illustrations, photographs, and diary entries, to dolls (handmade by Gorey himself), books, and personal items such as clothing and jewelry. Also there is a room devoted to promoting awareness of animal welfare issues ~ another of Mr. Gorey's passions. Every admirer of his delightfully macabre work will find something new to love at the Edward Gorey House, in addition to discovering more about the man behind the pen. If you are really lucky, they may be showing a video of one of Mr. Gorey's renowned puppet shows. That alone is worth a trip to the Cape!



*At left:  
Edward Gorey standing on  
his front porch alongside  
an oversized doll.*

*The Doubtful Guest  
himself ~ complete with  
hand-knitted scarf,  
and canvas shoes!*

For the opening reception, we were delighted to witness a live Gorey puppet show, which included:

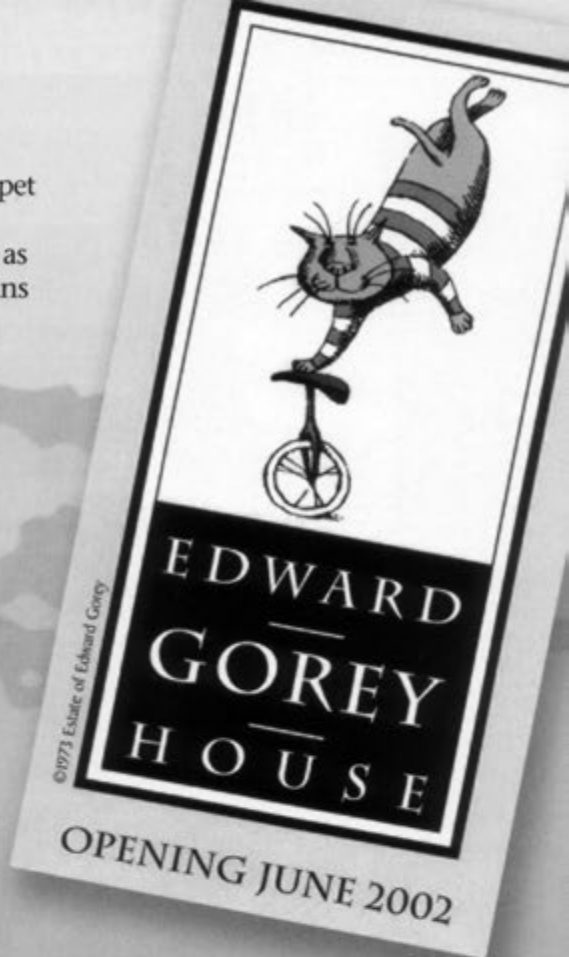
- ☛ The defeat of the terrible "Worsted Monster" (a large ball of yarn) as one brave puppet approached the ball and pulled apart. Its remains were knitted into socks for the poor.
- ☛ The triumphant revealing of Basil ~ the master of rhetoric, true identity to Zucchini, the disgraced zookeeper and Lydia, the depraved lace maker. By surreptitiously showing his birthmark (really cute on a puppet!), Basil received his full inheritance and all rejoiced!
- ☛ A charming rendition of "Claire de Lune", with three Gorey creatures soaring in a symbolist ballet to a graceful musical background. Each of these puppet vignettes were interspersed with human actors' dramatic exclamations of all the different uses of the wonderful and mysterious "QRV"!

Since its opening, the Gorey House has unveiled many events for fans to attend. The "Alphabet Auction" included several donated Edward Gorey items for the fortunate attendees to bid on, including personal jewelry, posters, books, and even a Tarot deck (no matter how you use it, something horrible will always befall you)! As entertainment, the puppets appeared again and we were treated to their charming theatrical portrayals of various Gorey alphabets such as "The Gashlycrumb Tinies", "The Glorious Nosebleed", and "The Chinese Obelisks". There are also holiday events at the house such as "A Gorey Halloween" and "A Gorey Holiday". The Gorey legacy is definitely being continued here.

You can keep up to date by visiting the museum's website at: [www.edwardgoreyhouse.org](http://www.edwardgoreyhouse.org), where you can become a museum member to ensure the work of our beloved "Uncle Eddie" shall continue to be shared for many years to come.

*"At sunset, they entered a tunnel in the Iron Hills and did not come out the other end."*

~ "The Willowdale Handcar"



At right:  
Mr. Gorey receiving  
valuable advice from  
one of his puppets.

Gorey's own personalized  
license plate.

