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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 27, 2012

Press materials and hi-res color press photos:

www.thrillpeddlers.com/press/press.html

Thrillpeddlers presents...

Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death

- A Evening of Horror and Unhinged Comedy

The 13th Annual Extravaganza of Terror & Titillation include

One Classic Grand Guignol Thriller;

Two World-Premiere One-Act plays;

a Musical Spectacle; and a Lights-Out Spook-Show Finale

Sept. 27 – Nov. 17, 2012

Opening night Thurs. Oct. 4 – 8:00 pm (Thurs., Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm)

Special Halloween Performances Oct. 30 & 31 (Tues./Wed.) – 8:00 pm

at The Hypnodrome in San Francisco

<http://www.thrillpeddlers.com>

San Francisco, CA, Aug. 27, 2012 –Thrillpeddlers announces their annual Halloween Extravaganza **Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death - A Evening of Horror and Unhinged Comedy**. This 13th Annual Extravaganza of Terror & Titillation include: One Classic Grand Guignol Thriller - **Coals of Fire** by Fredrick Whitney; Two World-Premiere One-Act plays - **The Bride of Death** by Michael Phillis; and **The Twisted Pair** by Rob Keefe; a Musical Spectacle - **Those Beautiful Ghouls** by Scrumbly Koldewyn; and a Lights-Out Spook-Show Finale. This annual festival of Grand Guignol horror theatre and black comedies, plays **Thurs., Fri., & Sat. at 8:00 pm from Sept. 27 thru Nov. 17, 2012, with 2 special Halloween performances on Tues., Oct. 30 and Wed. Oct. 31 at 8:00 pm. Previews begin Thurs., 9/27, Fri. 9/28 & Sat. 9/29. Opening Night (press night) – Thurs., Oct. 4, 2012 – 8:00 pm. The Hypnodrome is located at 575 10th St. SF 94103.**

(Bryant & Division Sts.) Gen. Admission tix for **Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death** - \$25 all previews, Thurs.. / \$30 Fri. & Sat. & Halloween performances/ \$35 premium admission for “Shock Boxes” and “Turkish Lounges” (premium tickets sold in pairs only), and are available at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/267384> or by calling **415/ 377-4202**.

Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death - Plays as a limited engagement – running only 26 performances – **Thurs. Fri. & Sat. at 8:00 pm from – Sept. 27 – Nov. 17, 2012.**

Previews - Sept. 27, 28 & 29 (Thurs. – Sat.)

Opening Night (press night) – Thurs., Oct. 4 at 8:00 pm.

2012 dates for Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death are:

Sept. 27, 28, 29 (previews) (Thurs. Fri. 8pm / Sat. 8pm)

Oct. 4, (Thurs.) opening night), 8:00 pm

Oct (Thurs. Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm)

(Tues., Wed. – 8:00 pm)

5, 6 / 11, 12, 13 / 18, 18, 10 / 25, 26, 27

2 Special Halloween Perfs Oct. 30 & 31

Nov. (Thurs. Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm) 1, 2, 3 / 8, 9, 10 / 15, 16, 17

Play Synopses:

Coals of Fire by Fredrick Whitney

Banned in Britain in 1922 for the play's use of graphic violence and immoral subject matter, Thrillpeddlers revive this one-act play that was originally intended for the stage of London's Grand Guignol theatre. Cast: **Leigh Crow** (The Wife), **Zelda Koznofski** (The Companion). Directed by **Flynn DeMarco**

The Bride of Death by Michael Phillis

This **World-premiere** is set the mid 1940s, somewhere along the California coast. A magazine reporter and photographer have been sent to the sprawling home of aging actress Evelyn Maxwell. Famous for her "101 Death Scenes" in the London Grand Guignol. Maxwell is rumored to be making a comeback in film, reprising the role that made her infamous onstage: "The Bride of Death". But all is not as it seems when they arrive. The butler and maid are hiding something. The Doctor is harboring a terrible secret in his basement laboratory. A mysterious young woman is singing inside the walls. And Evelyn Maxwell has not aged a single day in her 30 years away from the spotlight. Cast: **Annie Larson** (Governess), **Flynn DeMarco** (Randolph), **Zelda Koznofski** (Cynthia), **Nancy French** (Mrs. Offal), **Dalton Goulette** (Alistair Maxwell), **Jim Jeske** (Dr. Stygian), **Michael Phillis** (Tim), **Rory Davis** (Ignatius), **Bonni Suval** (Evelyn Maxwell). Based on characters and story ideas by **Flynn DeMarco** and **Michael Phillis**. Directed by **Russell Blackwood**

The Twisted Pair by Rob Keefe

When a poverty stricken American scientist learns of Crick and Watson's discovery of DNA in England, he decides that "funding follows fame" and sets out to be famous, no matter what the cost. Cast: **Russell Blackwood** (McKenzie), **Lisa Appleyard** (Mrs. Delvinto), **Nancy French** (Darcy), **Dalton Goulette** (Mateo), **Bruna Palmeiro** (Leonor), **Bonni Suval** (Celeste Montaigne), **Andy Wenger** (Thiago), **Flynn DeMarco** (Lark), **Michael Phillis** (Fly, Rat, Doll), **Rory Davis** (Fly, Rat, Doll). Directed by **Russell Blackwood**

Those Beautiful Ghouls by Scrumbly Koldewyn

Leigh Crow sings of about the attributes of Shocktoberfest's un-dead showgirls in this original production number, one of many musical contributions to the bill. With live accompaniment by **Steve Bolinger**.

Calendar Editors:

Title: Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death
- A Evening of Horror and Unhinged Comedy

Dates: Sept. 27 – Nov. 17, 2012
2 Special Halloween Perfs.: Oct 30 & 31, 2012 (Tues. & Wed.)

Perf. days & Times: Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 8:00 pm

2012 dates for Shocktoberfest 13: The Bride of Death are:

Sept. 27, 28, 29 (previews) (Thurs. Fri. 8pm / Sat. 8pm)
Oct. 4, (Thurs.) opening night), 8:00 pm

Oct	(Thurs. Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm)	5, 6 / 11, 12, 13 / 18, 18, 10 / 25, 26, 27
	(Tues., Wed. – 8:00 pm)	2 Special Halloween Perfs Oct. 30 & 31
Nov.	(Thurs. Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm)	1, 2, 3 / 8, 9, 10 / 15, 16, 17

Venue: The Hypnodrome 575 10th St., San Francisco 94103
(Bryant & Division Sts.)

Ticket Link: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/267384>

Ticket prices: \$25 gen. (previews & Thursday nights)
\$30 (Friday & Saturday nights, Halloween Performances)
\$35 for “Shock Boxes” & “Turkish Lounges”

Phone #: 415/ 377- 4202

Web site: <http://thrillpeddlers.com>

Press Page: www.thrillpeddlers.com/press/press.html

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Thrillpeddlers (www.thrillpeddlers.com) have been performing their unique brand of horror and fetish theatre in San Francisco since 1991. Under the direction of Russell Blackwood, Thrillpeddlers are continuously engaged in translating, adapting, and producing classic plays from the infamous repertoire of Le Théâtre du Grand Guignol and producing other works inspired by the Grand Guignol tradition.

In 2008, Thrillpeddlers embraced another niche theatrical genre with the company's annual Theatre of the Ridiculous Revival. That year they performed for NYC's HOWL Festival with their productions of Charles Busch's THEODORA, SHE-BITCH OF BYZANTIUM; Charles Ludlam's JACK IN THE BEANSTALK; and Link Martin and Scrumby Koldewyn's PEARLS OVER SHANGHAI. Following this, a full production of PEARLS was mounted in San Francisco in 2009 and ran for twenty-two months. In the summer of 2011 they revived another of Koldewyn's works, VICE PALACE. The hit show garnered 6 SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards and the group's second trip to NYC to perform at the HOWL Festival which included a special performance at NYC's Lincoln Center to celebrate the life and works of long time Koldewyn collaborator, Martin Worman.

The company's SOMA performance venue, The Hypnodrome, is tailor-made for the specific needs of horror theatre, musical extravaganzas, and "lights-out" spook show spectacle. Inaugurating The Hypnodrome with WELCOME TO THE HYPNODROME in 2004, Thrillpeddlers continued to produce wildly popular Grand Guignol bills including: BLOOD BUCKET BALLYHOO, FLAMING SIN, AUDACIOUS ARTEFACTS, KISS OF BLOOD and the recent hit, FEAR OVER FRISCO.

SHOCKTOBERFEST!!, Thrillpeddlers' annual pageant of terror & titillation, now in its 13th year has become a SF Halloween favorite. Prior to that, the company's production history includes the American premiere of Clive Barker's FRANKENSTEIN IN LOVE, MONDO ANDRONICUS (selected Best of the 1997 S.F. Fringe Festival), and a double-bill of THE MEDIUM and A CRIME IN THE MADHOUSE (in Pretoria, South Africa). Thrillpeddlers have won the SF Bay Guardian's "Best of the Bay" and back-to-back "Best of San Francisco" awards from SF Weekly. Thrillpeddlers Theatre Company received a coveted 2009 GOLDIE AWARD (Guardian Outstanding Local Discovery award) from the SF Bay Guardian In 2010, 7 X 7 Magazine named Thrillpeddlers "BEST UNDERGROUND THEATRE COMPANY IN SF." They are also the purveyors of www.GrandGuignol.com, the most complete source of Grand Guignol information on the Net. Thrillpeddlers just completed a critically -acclaimed run of MARAT/SADE presented by Marc Huestis at BRAVA Theatre.

About Seating

Pairs of patrons will surely enjoy Hypnodrome's famed **Shock Box seats for two**, which garnered S.F. Weekly's "Best of SF 2008" for "Best Bonus Theater Experience." These individually themed seats include sumptuous "Turkish Lounges", and "private boxes" including "Heaven and Hell," "The Pharaoh's Tomb," and "The Padded Cell," which offer the same opportunity for illicit trysting that was once a feature of the Parisian Théâtre du Grand-Guignol - with added special effects as a nod to the 50s horror movie gimmicks of William Castle.

Grand Guignol

For 65 years an old Jansenist monastery down a back alley in Montmartre was home to one of Paris' great stage attractions, Le Théâtre du Grand-Guignol. Born in 1897 out of the Naturalist theatre movement, the theatre company soon developed its own distinct repertoire of short horror plays, dramas, comedies and sex farces. As many as 6 of these one-acts played on a single bill, a "laughter and tears" line-up that alternated effortlessly between gasps and

guffaws. This “hot and cold shower” format seemed to intensify an audience’s delight and unease as they collectively realized that anything could happen on the Grand Guignol stage – no topic was taboo, and no symbol was sacred. Particularly during the decades that book-ended the world wars, live entertainment flourished in Montmartre. The artists there played a vital role in the development of new performance genres for the 20th century. What is thought of today as “modern drama” and popular entertainment owes much to Montmartre’s melodramas, cabarets, music halls, repertory theatres, and on-stage experiments that ranged from the avant-garde to the overtly sexual.

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The show continues through **Sat. Nov. 17, 2012**

TIX: Tickets available at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/267384>

or by calling **415/ 377- 4202**

\$25 general admission (Thurs.), \$30 (Fri. and Sat., Halloween Performances)

\$35 for premium “Shock Boxes” and “Turkish Lounges”

(premium tickets sold in pairs only.)

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(between Bryant & Division Streets)

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