



A LABOUR OF LOVE; THE VERSAILLES SUMMER GARDEN GALA ART SUBMISSIONS

By Madam Madeline, Dark Times Social Correspondent

I had the very great honour of being amongst one of the few that were granted a preview of the artistic submissions for the Paris Summer Garden Gala; and truly my eyes have not feasted on such beauty and such tragedy for a long, long time. Ms DuBois, dressed in an elegant white and blue summer dress, guided myself and few other honoured guests through the exhibition that will be on display in the gardens of Versailles in August.

All of the artwork submitted that successfully granted the creator or a person of the creators choice an invite will be put on display during the ball. Although it should be noted that Ms DuBois added, with a mischievous glint in her eye that, 'one may notice a few flaws amongst the diamonds.'

Let us begin with the musical submissions, for they are always my favourite and the category here was vast with entries. Some had simply recorded themselves singing others had gone to the effort of producing their very own music video. I found that the stripped back recordings were amongst some of my favourites and I look forward to performances of these from Signora Rosa who performed a haunting melody accompanied by the piano and Ren the Ghoul whose voice has immense power within it for one so low within our society. I also thoroughly enjoyed the piano piece produced by Mr Raoul Leroux, good sir you are coming on leaps and bounds since that unfortunate and sabotaged performance.

From music we come to the pieces

of Art and my lord what truly transcendent pieces were included in this part of the exhibition. I found myself enraptured by a portrait of a beautiful young man the picture of longing and need on his face only to (when I was finally pulled away from it) become utterly immobile in the face of a stunning charcoal piece of a French Landscape. In the centre of the exhibition lies one of Ms DuBois' favourites, a sculpture made from car parts that depicts a nude young woman being pulled from the wreckage of a train by the vines of a strong oak tree. The real magic comes in however when the sculpture is lit up with a candle placed in the centre; the otherwise serene and hopeful looking piece becomes deadly and frightening as the wreckage turns to knives and the woman in the certain appears to set the rest of the sculpture on fire. Miss DuBois also made mention of another sculpture that was submitted but that piece could not be put on display stating, "it's for my eyes only, and what a beautiful feast it is."

There were few foolish enough to submit poetry as their entry, despite knowing who else might cast their eyes over it, but there were some that braved it. Ms DuBois made mention that the poetry received had first of all been vetted by herself before passing under the gaze of the great poet himself Francois Villon. In the end she passed on only three to him and of those three only one will be on display and read by its poet. The piece is titled 'Sehnsucht' and is written in German

by a poet by the name of Gui.

There were several pieces submitted in the 'Performance' category which will be displayed in a variety of ways; plays will be perform excerpts, dances will have their own stage and mimes have been banned. We were witness to a video of a magnificent dance performance called Common Ground that conveyed the dancers rage, passion and frustration and used a mixture of energetic expressive dance and illusions, including the conjuring of a beautiful beast with golden scales and peacock feather wings. It is expected that a live version of the piece will be performed by Prince Nathaira at the ball.

There were a few other interesting pieces that were put on display for our viewing, one of which was a 'Dorian Grey' computer programme that displayed the viewers face as a distorted renaissance painting via a mirror. This piece was accompanied by a Title and Manifesto from the Artist, also called Grey, which caused just as much interest as the installation itself. I must admit I had hours of amusement with it although there were some Toreador that were also within my group that took great offence, which only made it more amusing of course.

This is but a snapshot of the works that will be on display at Versailles, one could spend a week looking around them all but sadly you only have one evening, so make the most of it.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

By Alexander Barker, Prince of Glasgow

The following Kindred have been found in breach of Domain within the Domain of Glasgow in the last month:

Matthias Duchemin of Clan Ravnos
 Remi Tourneur of Clan Ravnos
 Aaron Courbis of Clan Ravnos
 Jérôme Laurens of Clan Ravnos
 Hector Bonhomme of Clan Ravnos
 Quentin Vaganay of Clan Ravnos
 Germain Pelletier of Clan Ravnos
 Christian Geffroy of Clan Ravnos
 Fernand Boissieu of Clan Ravnos
 Jean Genet of Clan Ravnos
 Marie-Claire Desmarais of Clan Ravnos
 Orianne Desmarais of Clan Ravnos
 Lucile Baumé of Clan Ravnos
 Claudia Rouanet of Clan Ravnos
 Zoé Joguet of Clan Ravnos

By my right under the Second Tradition, the above individuals will be held indefinitely at my pleasure.

Requests for ransom may be directed to my Seneschal, Mr. Daniel Smith.

Ransom offers will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis.

MALKAVIAN POETRY

By Blood

For the creeping at the corner of the mind, without Which all Thought would be linear and all Feeling would be fleeting.

Blessed are the Madmen, for they hold the keys to secret knowledge.

Blessed are the Phobic, always wary of that which would do them harm.

Blessed are the Obsessed, for their courses are clear.

Blessed are the Addicts, may they quench the thirst that never ebbs.

Blessed are the Murderous, for they have found beauty in the grotesque.

Blessed are the Firelovers, for their hearts are always warm.

Blessed are the Artists, for in their hands the impossible is made real.

Blessed are the Musicians, for in their ears they hear the music of the soul.

Blessed are the Sleepless, as they bask in wakeful dreaming.

Blessed are the Paranoid, ever-watchful for our enemies.
 Blessed are the Visionaries, for their eyes see what might be.

Blessed are the Painlovers, for in their suffering, we grow stronger.

Blessed is the Chaos, who tricks us when we are foolish, punishes us when we are wrong, tortures us when we are un-mindful, and loves us in our imperfection.

ON PRAISE

By Levi Tius, Prince of Barcelona

The following kindred are deserving of thanks and praise for helping thwart the designs of our mutual enemy, Merrit, in the tunnels beneath Glasgow and in Motherwell.

Jack
 Twig and Stone
 Victor
 Charles Douglas
 Sebastian Fawkes
 Daniel Smith
 Teresa
 Dr Bran
 Rafael
 Grey
 Esteban

There were many horrors faced this month and your assistance in handling them with bravery and fortitude are appreciated. They all put their lives on the line so others might be safe. You have my personal thanks in that and while the significance of this work might be lost on some know that your esteem has risen among those who value such things.

I hope that whatever differences people might have they can be momentarily set aside. We should enjoy this time of comradery before we once again fall to our politicking.

THE NIGHT IS DARK AND FULL OF TERRORS

By Esteban

The day grows short and the night grows long
 This is the life where you belong
 Your trepidation knows no bounds
 This is the hunt, you are a hound

The years have past and yet more to come
 The heart you have still beats its drum
 You put your trust in those who betray
 This is the hunt, you lead the way

As the darkness ends and light draws near
 Your eyes give away your fear
 The silent scream as you lay still
 You were the hunt, this is the kill

THE VERSAILLES SUMMER GARDEN GALA GUEST LIST

By Viola DuBois, Harpy of Paris

Good evening all, please find below the Guest List for the forthcoming Versailles Summer Garden Gala. This list does not include members of the French Courts who have all been granted permission to attend.

All are granted permission and hospitality to Paris by Prince Francois Villon and accommodation will be provided for all those attending that require it.

All invites include a plus one of your choice.

If you have any further questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in touch with either myself or the Keeper of Elysium; Matthew St John.

VIPS

Justicar Edelstein

Justicar Ovid

Prince Antoine D'Fleur

Prince Augustus Trenchard of Cartagena

Prince Barker of Glasgow

Prince Bonnefoy of Marseilles and Lady Bonnefoy

Prince Elijah of Strasbourg

Prince Florian Illias of Antwerp

Prince Frederick Waldsburg of Berlin

Prince Gunther Wulf of Cadiz

Prince Hera Nectarios of Aegina

Prince Huxley of Edinburgh

Prince Louise Van De Velde of Bruges

Prince Melanie D'Medici of Strasbourg

Prince Nathaira of Ciudad Real

Prince Richard Du Canarella of Bordeaux

Prince Seline Michaels of Lyon

Prince Tius of Barcelona

Prince Violet Zay of La Rioja

Prince of York

Lady Anne Bowesley of London

Guests (Outside of the courts of Paris)

Alberto Fernandez

Ada Steinhart

Adrianna Mckenna

Ahmet Castaneda

Alex Law and Dr Sophie Roman

Amelia Rose Oswald

Anaiya Palacios

Anne Jacques, Harpy of York

Algernon and Benedict, Harpies of Severn

Charles and Olga Kelly

Cheyenne Gould

Domonic Krueger

Elif Santiago

Elisabeta Trenchard (Mrs)

Eric & Margery Ponsenby

Farr, Harpy of Edinburgh

Franklyn Barrow

Geoffrey Livingston

Grey

Genevieve E'toile

Heather Jackman, Scourge of Glasgow

Ignacy Powell

Inaaya Wicks

Jay Fitzgerald

Johanna Deleon

Julius Che

Lawrence Tegular

Lucretzia Reflection, Harpy of Manchester

Madam Madeline

Madam Rouge

Magdalene, Seneschal of Strasbourg

Maggie

Maizie Heaton

Maria Hernandez

Mariam Robin

Mia Wallace, Harpy of Atlanta

Montgomery Rosario

Percy Hoover

Percival and Gertrude

Peter Delgado & Argenta

Portia Troy

Raoul Leroux

Rosalie Gypsy, Harpy of Seattle

Saad Hewitt

Sancha Lopez

Sebastian Fawkes

Signora Rosa

Tatiana Petrova

Teresa, Sheriff of Glasgow

Thomas Anderson

Tylor Moody

Ursula Long

Victor

Victoria Featherstone

Waqas Bloggs

Special Guests

Anja Mcphee

Bianka Wiggins

Daisy-May Craig

Daniel Smith, Seneschal of Glasgow

Delia Floyd

Duane Hunter

Ethan Fletcher, Seneschal of Barcelona

Opal Blanchard

Raphael Ortega, Harpy of Glasgow

Ren the Ghoul

Sammy-Jo Beard

FAMILY GIOVANNI VILLAS IN RUINS IN ITALY

By Jean-Paul Éclair, Dark Times Correspondent

Disaster has struck several residences of the family Giovanni along the East Coastline of Italy where they have found several of their homes crashing into the Adriatic sea. The family are as ever trying to keep the accident under wraps however a few over talkative family ghouls let slip the unfortunate incident. They noted that the foundations of the villas looked like they had been tampered with causing a structural failure within the building.

The Family, when asked to comment on the accident stated that the losses were purely material and no kin-

dred was caught up in the buildings destruction. The ghouls however told a different story and noted at least five Giovanni now lie in ashes within the family crypts. Whilst representatives of the family claim that the structural damage was purely a fault in the design by mortals initially combined with issues with the land the Ghouls claim they saw large Byzantine looking wraiths tearing the building apart.

Either way the family Giovanni would like to sweep this all under the rug as quickly as possible.



THE END IS NIGH

By Castor, Clan Malkavian, Norfolk

IT IS COMING!

Can you feel it in the waters, can you see it in the air.

The weak blooded sits on the throne and the terrors will rise, consuming us all.

The seers have seen, they sway in the throws of their prophecy, they of the weak blood see all and they see the rise of the old ones.

They are coming...they are coming...

STAND STRONG

By Jim Hawk, Anarch

Our time is coming brothers and sisters, where will be asked to make a decision and I urge each and every one of you to stand strong.

The losses in Ireland has weighed heavy on our minds and hearts, but thought we have lost the battle we will not lose the war. Even know we make gains to stabilise our free state in California, we are making tentative peace with Prince Kane in Manchester with a view of establishing our own free state in Liverpool. We are see-

ing progress brothers and sisters, and I need you to stay strong.

Even now I have reached out to one within our Camarilla that understands us, that has shown us and members of our sect sympathy in the past. They are listening to us and I can assure you brothers and sisters, if they will not give us our seat at the table, then we will take it.

Stand strong brothers and sisters, change is coming.

Harpy Quotes



Glasgow – Raphael Ortega - Wolves howled and the dead marched, but we're still standing. A testament to the leadership of our Prince, and of the resilience of our domain

Edinburgh – Farr – I hear a rumour that someone is looking for the former Prince of Dundee, I can give you the exact location of he and his wife for a small price.

Aberdeen – Dougal Douglas – What a lark that Gangrel Thing was over in Helsinki, haven't seen that calibre of boasts and fights in a looooooong time. And that battle of the bards; gripping. Good to see everyone on top form and some interesting develops with some new cousins.

Inverness – David Griene – No submission (Note from the Editor: We have been informed that Harpy Griene is currently unavailable for quotes due to an unfortunate incident with a Fae)

London – Lady Salisbury – You never know who you're going to bump into at the opera, one should always be on their guard.

Severn – Benedict & Algernon – We the charming harpies of Severn do declare that Miss Georgiana Samson of the domain of Manchester and hailing from the clan of Bru-HA is an 8. Possibly and 8.5, but certainly no higher than a 8.9. We encourage you all to delight in her company and personage and consider her a stalwart Ancilla of the Camarilla.

Manchester – Lucrezia Reflection – I think she might be worried, I think there might be a crack in the mask that she wears. Father says that He is still hidden. No one sees him. He shouts and screams when she lets him, she likes to see him angry, but nobody hears, nobody sees, isn't that right my puppet brother?

Birmingham – Bethany Trimble – We were honoured this month with a visit from her Majesty herself. Our darling Prince was over the moon to see her again and they spend many a long hour in private conversation, he looked bereft to see her leave, as if his heart went with her. I'm not jealous, you're jealous.

York – Anne Jacques – A marvellous performance darling girl, you put them in their place and still retained all your delightful warmth and dignity. You have no need of my shield now Madam Duchess, but I gladly give it.

Norfolk – Carl – That's right, he's been following people, trying to get them to see and hear but Father says they don't hear anything. Well maybe one does, if they think really, really, really, REALLY hard. And I'm not a puppet, I have seen the error of my ways and seen my true love for who she is.

Carlisle – Vanessa Norton – When are people going to wake up and smell the weak the blooded. They are a danger to our society and need to be ousted from it, never mind having a prince with it. #purevitaeonly

Derry – Hilda Bern – So much for the 'Anarch Plan', come on guys, hit us already, we're ready for you.

Paris – Viola DuBois – It was an absolute delight to take a break from all that party planning for a night at the opera, we had a wonderful time and he enjoyed his 'cameo' immensely.



Dark Times
Chambre Dix, Hotel Britannique a Paris
75001 PARIS
FRANCE
Phone: +33 (1) 47 77 12 34
Fax: +33 (1) 47 77 98 76
E-mail: darktimes@gvlarp.com