

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISABELLA  
SEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM

Gardner Museum Hosts Romantic *Venetian Valentine* Evening Soirée

*Valentine's event showcases the magic and romance of the Gardner at night; invites guests to indulge in decadent cocktails and delectable cuisine, explore romance-filled art and poetry, and savor live jazz – all in Boston's most enchanting setting*

**Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 PM | Ticketed Event**



*The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum courtyard in February.*

BOSTON, DECEMBER 22, 2008 – Can't take your sweetheart to Venice this Valentine's Day? The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum offers the next-best thing: a Valentine's evening filled with romantic music, poetry, food and drink, and world-class art – in Boston's only Venetian palace.

On Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, from 6:30-8:30 pm, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum hosts its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual *Venetian Valentine* evening event, evoking the magic and romance of a bygone era of entertaining. Guests will enjoy an assortment of tempting cocktails, delectable bites, and decadent desserts; live jazz from the flowering courtyard; a poetic "Art of Romance" tour of the softly-lit galleries... and more! It's a particularly romantic and unique way to delight your Valentine or to spend a stylish night with friends.

The evening begins with romantic jazz standards – think *My Funny Valentine* – performed from the courtyard garden by the Patrice Williamson Quartet. Throughout the event, the Gardner Museum's three floors of galleries, filled with masterworks by Raphael, Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Titian and others, will be open for an intimate stroll through 30 centuries worth of great art, and a special "Art of Romance" tour will lead visitors on a poetry-infused exploration of some of Isabella Gardner's more romantic pieces. Guests will enjoy an open bar featuring that most Venetian of cocktails, the Bellini, and an array of culinary delights—including passed hors d'oeuvres, a light supper buffet, and sumptuous themed desserts—designed to awaken all the senses. 7 News' own Frances Rivera will also make a special appearance. At the end of the evening, attendees will receive a free gift bag filled with romantic mementos and indulgent special offers to keep the romance alive year-round. The only thing missing: a gondola to take you home!

**Tickets** to the Gardner's *Venetian Valentine* event are available to the general public by advance purchase only. Tickets include one full year of free museum membership—an invitation to experience the museum's magic any day of the year—for just **\$90 per person** or **\$175 per couple**. Current museum members may purchase tickets at a discounted rate of \$65 per person or \$125 per couple. Reservations and tickets are available through the museum's Special Events department at 617.391.3949 or [events@isgm.org](mailto:events@isgm.org). Both previous Valentine's evening events have sold out, so call early!

**ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM** • 280 The Fenway Boston MA 02115 617.566.1401 [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org) • Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm • \$12 adults; \$10 seniors; \$5 students; \$2 discount w/ same day Museums of Fine Arts admission; **FREE** for members, children under 18, and all named Isabella • Modeled after a 15th-century Venetian palazzo with an interior courtyard garden, Gardner Museum houses a collection of fine art spanning 30 centuries and featuring Titian, Rembrandt, Botticelli and Sargent, as well as changing contemporary and historic exhibitions, classical concerts, lectures and special events.

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**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**Brittany Duncan** Publicist p 617.278.5106 [bduncan@isgm.org](mailto:bduncan@isgm.org) • **Katherine Armstrong** PR Director p 617.278.5107 [karmstrong@isgm.org](mailto:karmstrong@isgm.org)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Images and film of the museum's romantic atmosphere, flowers and art are available for advance promotion of the event. Photographers and film crews are welcome at the *Venetian Valentine* event.

*The Boston Phoenix and Stuff@Night are exclusive print media sponsors of this event.*