Azalea Inn & Gardens

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\*\* NOTE: Micheal Jacobson's name is spelled atypically "e" before "a." High resolution photos and full feature release (Adobe PDF or WORD formats) are available.

## PLAYFUL AND PAINTED GHOSTS SPICE UP STORYTELLING AT HISTORIC SAVANNAH MANSION

SAVANNAH GEORGIA [September 22, 2006] Miss Betty, housekeeper with a voice reminiscent of Miss Prissy from "Gone with the Wind" movie fame, conveys tales of a baby ghost who leaves footprints from play on the carpet at Azalea Inn and Gardens in Savannah, Georgia. This ghost, she reassures, does not scare the historic inn's guests.

If you don't believe Miss Betty's ghost tale, then a more convincing lighthearted celebration of southern storytelling and attentive ghosts is discovered within the mansion's vivid murals. In 1995, artists James Caskey and Michelle DePersia, two Savannah College of Art and Design students, incorporated inquisitive ghosts into the historical scenery in the dining room of the bed and breakfast mansion. The historic inn's owner, Teresa Jacobson, relays that the mansion is truly sparse on any actual ghost presence. However, Miss Betty will tell you ghost stories with conviction, and end with, "Did you just feel that cold wind?" Then, follow up with, "You might be right. It's probably the air conditioner."

Typical of Savannah's whimsy for storytelling, even enhancing folklore with touches of humor, the former Boston Democrat owner among the Sons of Liberty, with the likeness of Senator Teddy Kennedy and Spock (of Star Trek fame) prominent amid the ranks of colonial Savannah citizenry meeting the Yamacraw Indians on the Savannah River bluff.

At Azalea Inn and Gardens, the baby ghost is endearing and the temptation to discover the rest of the ghosts in the mural is a titillation that is too fun to forego, much like the city of Savannah itself.



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## **About Azalea Inn**

Azalea Inn and gardens is located in the Landmark Savannah Historic District within two walking blocks of Forsyth Park, the city's infamously verdant and captivating central park. Guests are invited to rendezvous where life is a celebration ... of the present and the past. Amid the breezy quietude of the Landmark Savannah Historic District's Huntingdon Street, relaxed southern comforts allure guests seeking casual Savannah charm and social sensibilities. The historic inn's amenities include a southern U.S. cuisine full breakfast, courtyard garden pool, private parking, newly landscaped19<sup>th</sup> century heritage gardens, sociable rattan rockers under tree canopied balconies, and inviting porch verandahs. Each of the inn's 10 guest rooms features themed décor depicting Savannah's gardens, distinguished history, and fashionable turn-of-the-century lifestyle of the mansion's original owner, Captain Walter K. Coney.

The Italianate urban manor (circa 1889), built on garden plots formerly designated for colonial gardening (ca. 1733 Georgia colonization) features original mantles and handsome, artisan craftsmanship from Savannah's Victorian era. The cotton executive's mansion, now the Azalea Inn, was purchased in August 2005 by Micheal and Teresa Jacobson, parents of two graduates of the Savannah College of Art and Design. 217 East Huntingdon Street, Savannah, Georgia USA 31401-5714. Toll Free 800-582-3823 (within the USA). Telephone 912-236-2707. Email <a href="mailto:info@azaleainn.com">info@azaleainn.com</a> Internet <a href="mailto:http://www.azaleainn.com">http://www.azaleainn.com</a>

## PRODUCTION NOTE:

A signed release is in hand at Azalea Inn and Gardens for Miss Betty's storytelling.