

A Review of Around the World in Eighty Days
By Jack

Wow! Around the World in Eighty Days is a masterpiece as a book, and it is even more amazing as a play. When we went to see it at the Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey, it was excellently written, excellently performed and really excellently casted. The scene changes were slick, the actors made the characters all believable, and amazingly, despite the funny things they were having to say, nobody cracked up.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the story, it concerns a rather rich and eccentric Englishman named Phileas Fogg, who is always exactly precise and on time. When he is playing a game of cards with his friends at the club he goes to, he bets 20,000 pounds that he could get around the world in eighty days. The others laugh at the idea, but he sets off the next day with his French manservant, Passepartout. Together, they set out on an adventure that may well change forever the way the Phileas Fogg thinks about the world. But a detective, Mr Fix, believes that Fogg is responsible for the robbery of a bank in England, and will do everything in his power to slow down the duo. Can Fogg get back in time to win the bet?

It was an amazing production, and I thoroughly recommend it to anyone who likes theater or, for that matter, Jules Verne.