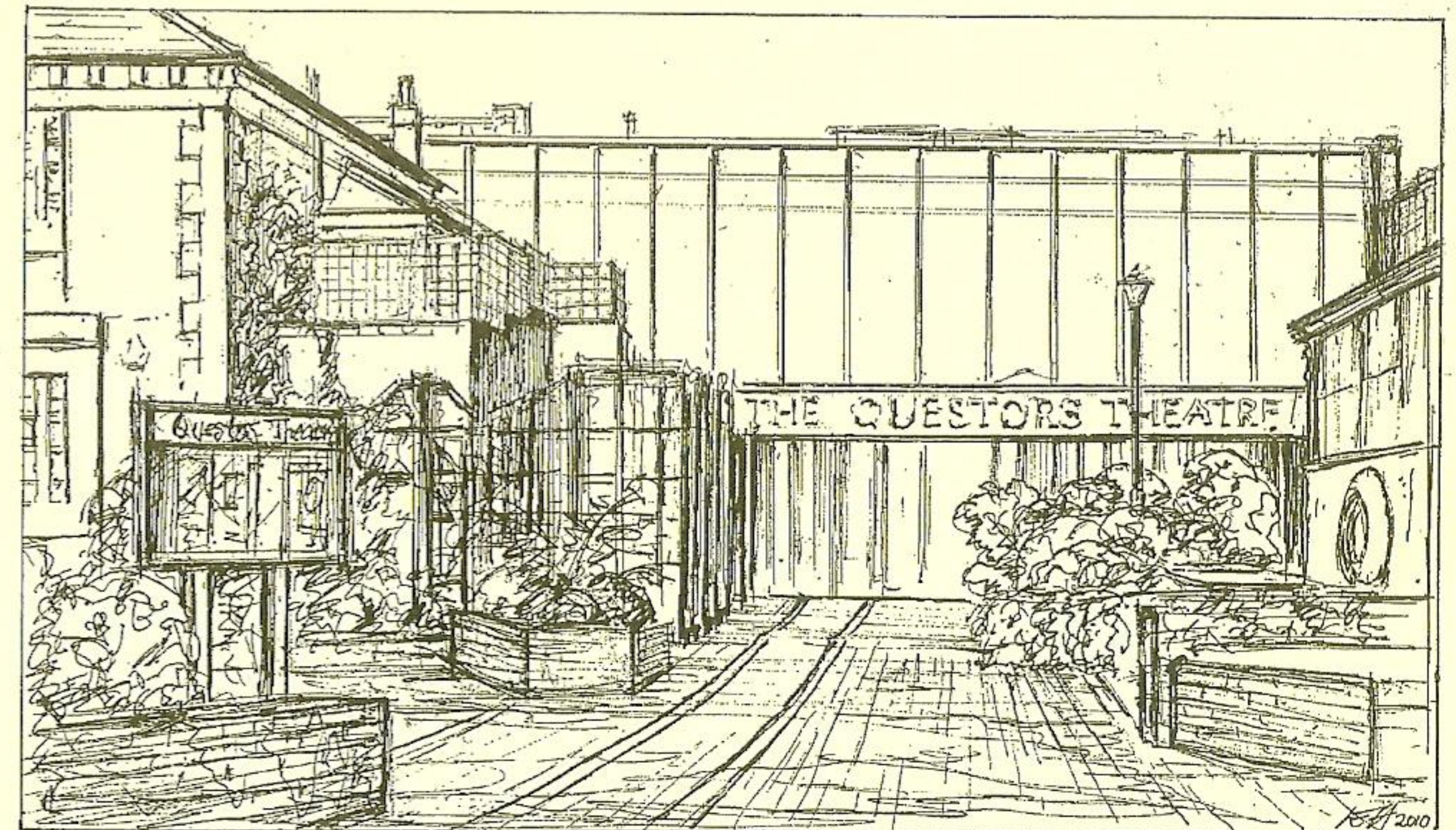




Questors, Ealing's Theatre



AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS

freely adapted by Phil Willmott
from the novel by Jules Verne

The Playhouse

13 – 16 March 2013

Qafé

Pop in for lunch or an afternoon snack – serving specialist teas and coffees, hot chocolate and soft drinks, with a selection of sandwiches cut to order.

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 11:30 am – 7:00 pm*

Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

**last orders for food at 6:30 pm*

For Playhouse productions:

Hot meal menu up to 6:30 pm followed by drinks, ice creams and snacks through the first interval.

The Grapevine Bar

The Grapevine is our friendly club bar open to Members and Friends of The Questors Theatre and their guests, as well as audience members on show nights.

The club is open seven nights a week and Sunday lunchtimes and is managed and staffed entirely by volunteers.

We are the proud holders of a Cask Marque award for the quality of our real ales, we appear in the 2013 edition of The Good Beer Guide and we are **CAMRA National Club of the Year 2012**. A choice of at least three real ales is usually available, including Fuller's London Pride. We also provide a range of draught lagers and ciders, as well as wines and spirits – all at very reasonable prices.

Opening Hours:

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm (10:30 pm close on Sundays)

Sunday lunchtime: midday – 2:30 pm

See questors.org.uk/grapevine for more details

Neither the Qafé nor the Grapevine
is able to accept credit or debit cards.

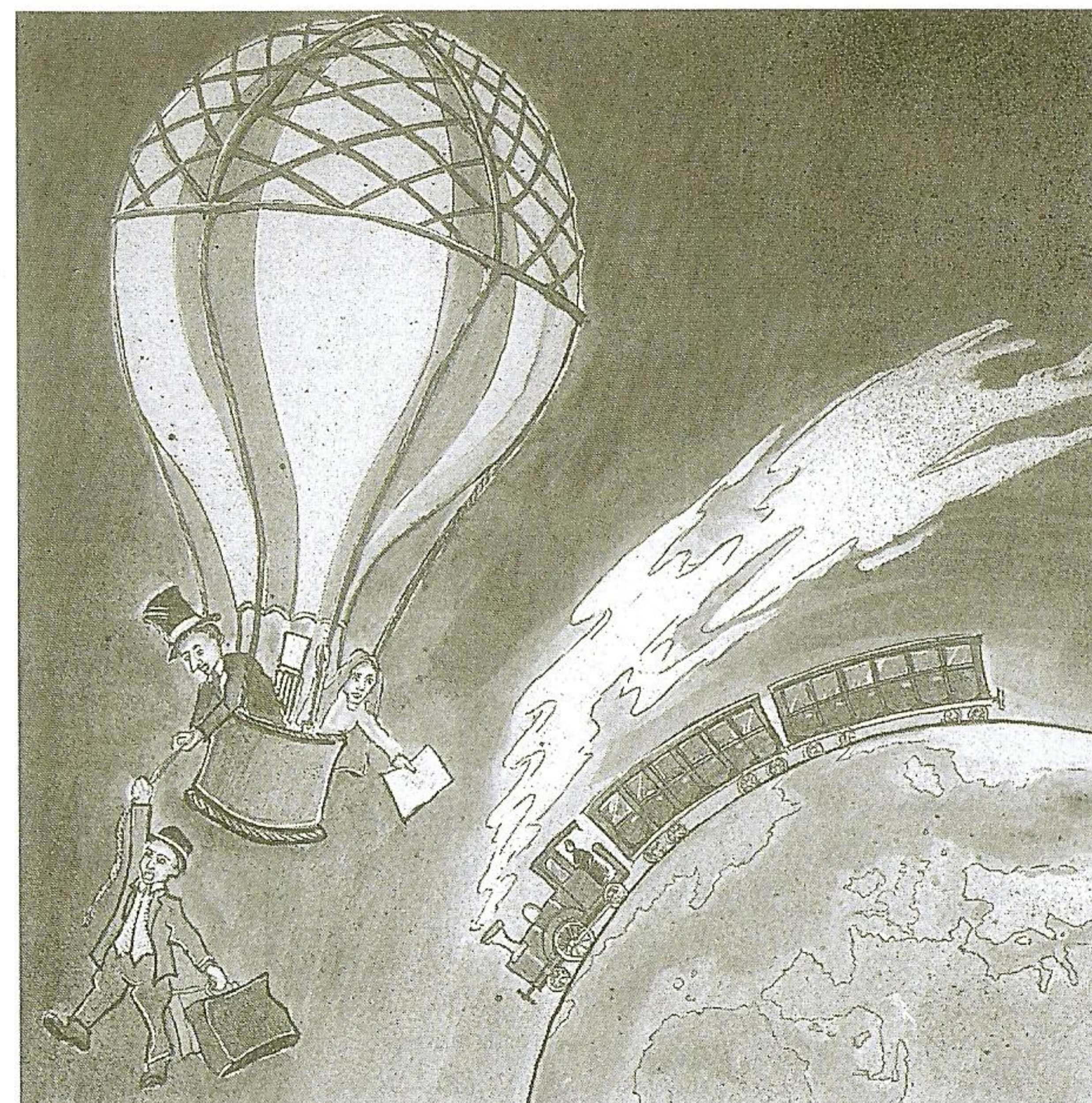


Image: Alex Marker

AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS

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script and original songs by Phil Willmott, score by Annemarie Lewis Thomas,
based on tunes by Phil Willmott

The Playhouse

13 – 16 March 2013

Around the World in Eighty Days

This production of Phil Willmott's adaptation of Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days* is the story of a fast-paced, action-packed and (hopefully) exhilarating adventure. As directors, we have tried both to maintain a sense of authenticity in the representation of Phil Willmott's text and the original story, and to be innovative in adapting elements of the production to make it work for the Playhouse stage.

The adaptation of the original tale gives us a tongue-in-cheek, whimsical interpretation of what was quite a stoic novel, culturally entrenched in the time and place of the late Victorian era. The novel has quite a rigid, traditional structure, and the play text, by comparison, is much more frenetic in both pace and structure. It is an adaptation that clearly is *of our time*. The language, for instance, is predominantly contemporary, with musical numbers adding a further sense of timelessness.

Our overall aesthetic is one of fluidity and flexibility, and we wanted to reflect this fast-moving changeability of time and place in our staging. To do this we decided to have the cast onstage at all times, minimising the time taken for scene changes and propelling the pace of the production. This also ties into the basic premise at the heart of Jules Verne's original text: that of conquest through speed. After all, the play is called *Around the World in Eighty Days*. For the Victorians, this concept of the fast-paced, the instantaneous, was harder to contemplate: in an era of the internet, mobile phones and aeroplanes, we, on the other hand, are used to instant gratification; to speed.

By taking the audience out of their comfort zone with our more abstract take on time, place and character, we hope to re-create this atmosphere of unpredictability and excitement at what could come next. This take on traditional theatre convention enables a more active role for the imagination of both the performers and the audience. It means that characters will transform before the audience's eyes into other characters, or even inanimate objects. It means that different locations have to be communicated through the actors and not through full-scale set changes.

This provided a great opportunity for the cast to use their own imagination in the rehearsal process and we were delighted by the readiness and enthusiasm we were greeted with at such requests as: 'Be a jungle!' The improvisation work they have done in their classes clearly stood them in great stead for such challenges. In working with minimum set, we decided costume design should be indicative rather than accurate. This complemented our decision not to be constrained by specifics of time and place, and allows the flexibility necessary with a gesture to setting the play in the late Victorian era.

Phil Willmott's text interestingly tackles the darker side of colonial imperialism, with a sense of 'light-heartedly poking fun', and we also attempted to reflect this in our production. The character of Aouda embodies the tensions between colony and colonised; as an Indian princess but with an English education. But essentially, she

plays the part of a more contemporary heroine: brave, intelligent and beautiful. The power dynamics of Victorian society are also reflected in the relationship between Fogg and Passepartout, which is portrayed as fundamentally a master/servant relationship. Phileas Fogg is in many ways the quintessential Englishman. He represents many commonly held views from the Victorian era and, indeed, not all of them are good. As well as possessing the attributes of the archetypal hero, being ultimately brave, intelligent and rather dashing, he also often appears inflexible, uncompromising and plain stuck up! Jean Passepartout is the comparatively more charming, chilled out counterpart to Fogg. They are a partnership of opposites: where Fogg is organised and methodical, Passepartout is haphazard and chaotic. It is as if Fogg didn't have enough to get in the way of his careful planning, but the character of Captain James Fix provides us with an archetypal 'baddie'; who tries to sabotage Fogg's wager at every turn. Ultimately, all the characters (even Fix) find resolution at the end of this play, in the true spirit of a contemporary musical comedy. All in all, aspects of the traditional and archetypal mix with the abstract and contemporary in this refreshing mish-mash of new and old. It's been an absolute delight working with the cast, who have consistently impressed us with their talent, their energy and their dedication. We do hope you enjoy the production.

Anthony Shrubsall and Tessa Shrubsall, Co-Directors

The Music of Around the World in Eighty Days

As in all good musicals, the music in *Eighty Days* forms an integral part of the drama, driving the journey forward to evoke diverse parts of the world as the journey unfolds. Some characters (Passepartout, Princess Aouda and even the Journey itself) have their own themes, recurring and transforming throughout the show to reflect their situation or inner thoughts. Some (Captain Fix, Hitch) are given singular show-stoppers which nevertheless, like all well-written musical numbers, allow an actor to give the audience a window into the inner life of the character (whilst also showing off their singing and acting abilities!) The central character, Fogg, interestingly does not possess a musical theme; arguably this speaks more about his personality than any leitmotiv could. His contribution to the inverted love duet *What Do I Love* evolves from a minimal figure of three notes, never quite managing to stand upright before collapsing back into a swamp of fault-finding. The music takes us on a broad tour of musical genres, through burlesque, circus, torch song, jungle orgy, cowboy western and soul preacher. Based on tunes by the script's author, Phil Willmott, it contributes to and enhances the whole, and you might find yourself humming one or two of the tunes afterwards, too.

Michael Murray, Musical Director

Meet The Company – Wednesday 13 March

Come and meet the playwright, director, cast and crew for an informal discussion in the Playhouse as soon as possible after the first performance.

THE QUESTORS YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS

freely adapted by Phil Willmott from the novel by Jules Verne,

script and original songs by Phil Willmott, score by Annemarie Lewis Thomas, based on tunes by Phil Willmott

First performance of this production at The Questors Theatre: 13 March 2013

CAST

Master of Ceremonies	Roy Abou-Hamad
Katy O'Flathery	Isobel Algar
The Mayor	Eimear Baigent
Guard	Sepphiah Barrett
Queen Victoria	Rebecca Bollard
Phileas Fogg	Matthew Carr
Jean Passepartout	Jacob Chancellor
Dr Watson	Tom Cowell
Phineas T Barnum	Amelia Gehring
Dr Livingstone	Johnnie Gibbes
Parisian Station Porter	Jacob Golub
Sherlock Holmes	Jasmin Hall
Captain James Fix	Troy Headman
Detective	Elea Hepper
Prime Minister Disraeli/Mean Bandit	Matthew Hurley
Hitch	Tristan Jones-Smith
Trudy/Tammy Lou's Dame/Concierge	Holly-May Jordon
Tammy Lou/Morag	Tegan Lacy-Andrews
Mrs Chang	Anastasia Michanitzis
Princess Aouda	Niamh Murphy
Sheila/Tammy Lou's Dame	Alice Reynolds
Yuki/Tammy Lou's Dame/Saloon Hostess	Dana Rimdjonoka
Miss Fotherington	Bibi Salmons
Stanley/Journalist	Thalia Shearn
Jesse James	Joseph Silke
Svetlana/Tammy Lou's Dame	Miranda Simmons
Guard	Anna Sogomonian
Pam/Tammy Lou's Dame	Lucia Tremonti
Helga/Tammy Lou's Dame	Orlaith Tully
Liverpudlian Policeman	Sarah Zein

All other parts played by members of the company.

MUSICIANS

Keyboard & Trumpet	Michael Murray	Piano	Andrew Chadney
Drums & Percussion	Alex Marker	Bass	Ben Reed

The action takes place in 1873 at various stops around the world.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes.

PRODUCTION

Co-Directors	Anthony Shrubsall, Tessa Shrubsall
Musical Director	Michael Murray
Choreographer	Caroline Mathias
Set Designer	Alex Marker
Costume Designer	Jennie Yates
Lighting Designer	Tim Hayward
Sound Designer	Martin Choules
Stage Manager	John Thompson
Deputy Stage Manager	Liz Prior
Assistant Stage Managers	Tom Clifford, Serena Isaac, Michelle Weaver
Prompter	Jessy Moat
Lighting Operators	Jessie Batende, John Green, Daniel Nairn
Sound Operator	Irma Kent
Lighting Riggers	John Green, Francois Langton, Richard Mead, Terry Mummary, Chris Newall, Ben Sandford
Wardrobe Assistants	Mary Davies, Helen Karasiewicz
Constructors/Painters	Annabel Aldridge, Toby Burbage, Sarah Burgess, Jazz Fleming, Mike Hagan, Sybilla McGrigor, Camilla Robinson, Gabby Wallace
Chaperones	Orla Baigent, Deborah Chancellor, Philippa Egan, Tracey Fletcher, Dominique Gerrard, Anne Gilmour, Rachel Knightley, Bernice Wolfenden
Photographer	Peter Collins

Thanks to:
Bernard Brady, Colin Horne, Jolyon Houghton, Barbara Marker, Nigel Worsley
from Kingston College: Esme Ash, Aaron Hitt, Katie Gorrod, Joe Monks,
Jessica Patterson, Ella Palmer, Peter Saunders, Emma Tilby, Joshua Trayling
from University of West London: Josephine James, Niall Murray, Daniel Nairn,
Kathryn Stonebridge, Charlotte Walton

Please turn off all mobile phones, pagers and watch alarms.
The use of cameras, video cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.
Thank you.

Biographies

Roy Abou-Hamad – Master of Ceremonies

Roy has been in QYT for a year. He performed in the QYT summer showcase. Outside The Questors, he recently played the lead in *Antony and Cleopatra* and was also Tevye in his Year 6 production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. He is currently playing Cagey Joe in *Bugsy Malone*.

Isobel Algar – Katy O'Flathery

Isobel has taken part in many school shows including playing Velma in *West Side Story*. She has also taken part in some small group performances at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, with the Lyric Young Company. She is looking forward to this, her first Questors production.

Eimear Baigent – The Mayor

This is Eimear's first Questors production, although she has taken part in several school musicals such as *The Hopeless Camel*, *Treasure Island* and, most recently, *We Will Rock You*. Her parts in this production range from the Mayor to the elephant's trunk.

Sepphiah Barrett – Guard

Sepphiah loves acting and hopes to become a successful actress. She appeared in last year's Questors production of *The Tempest* and has been cast in her school production of *Bugsy Malone*. She hopes that these performances will open the doors to future opportunities.

Rebecca Bollard – Queen Victoria

Rebecca has been involved with QYT for around four years. She has played a granddaughter in *A Christmas Carol* and a dancing spoon in *Beauty and the Beast* (which she particularly enjoyed). She is very interested in theatre and hopes to continue performing at The Questors.

Matthew Carr – Phileas Fogg

Matthew joined QYT last September and this is his first performance here. He has acted in a few productions at school including *Skellig* and *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. However, *Around the World in Eighty Days* is his biggest role so far.

Jacob Chancellor – Jean Passepartout

Jacob has been a member of QYT for seven years. What a trek! Although he has only been in one production (*A Christmas Carol*), he enjoyed it immensely. He has gone from urchin to main part but has found the work really fun and would do it again in a flash. Enjoy!

Tom Cowell – Dr Watson

Tom, 16, has been a part of QYT for four years and appeared in *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and *The Tempest*. He has enjoyed the journey hugely and hopes that he will be able to perform in other productions in the future.

Amelia Gehring – Phineas T Barnum

This is Amelia's eighth year in QYT and her fourth Questors production after *The Pierglass*, *The Tempest* and *The Monster Under the Bed*, as well as appearing in musicals and operas at school. She also assisted in wardrobe for *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

Johnnie Gibbes – Dr Livingstone

Johnnie has just finished playing John Darling in *Peter Pan* at the Beck Theatre, with Adam Woodyatt. He has also been in several Stagecoach and school productions.

Jacob Golub – Parisian Station Porter

Jacob has been a member of The Questors for three years and this is his first performance here. Previously, at Elthorne High School, he played Prospero from *The Tempest* as well as The Ghost of Christmas Present in a school nativity in Primary School.

Jasmin Hall – Sherlock Holmes

Jasmin has been a member of QYT for two years. She appeared in *Annie* as orphan Kate. She also played Jim Hawkins in a school production of *Treasure Island* and has been an extra in the Bollywood film *Naachle London*. She loves being in her second Questors production.

Troy Headman – Captain James Fix

Aside from a summer showcase, this is Troy's first youth performance – playing the 'dashing, famous big-game hunter' Captain James Fix. Troy is 17 years old, has spent a year in QYT and is looking forward to being a part of his first production.

Elea Hepper – Detective

Elea is 15 and has been a member of QYT for over five years. She has been in three previous Questors productions, most recently *The Tempest* in which she played Ariel. She is a member of the National Youth Theatre and loves the theatre for its atmosphere and the friends.

Matthew Hurley – Prime Minister Disraeli/Mean Bandit

Matthew has been a member of QYT for six years. He has appeared in numerous plays at The Questors. He loves acting and wants to become a professional actor when he is older. He would like to join the National Youth Theatre to further his career.

Tristan Jones-Smith – Hitch

Tristan is currently in Year 12 and has been a member of QYT for three years. He is studying Theatre Studies in Sixth Form and has recently finished a one-year TV and film training course. This is his first Questors production, other than the summer showcases.

Holly-May Jordon – Trudy/Tammy Lou's Dame/Concierge

Holly-May has attended QYT for almost four years. Currently in Year 9, she has been in two previous Questors productions: *Annie* and *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Enjoy her performance in *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

Tegan Lacy-Andrews – Tammy Lou/Morag

Tegan has been in QYT for six years and is now in group 11. She was previously seen in *The Pierglass* and *The Monster Under the Bed*. She has also been in many other productions outside The Questors. She is currently studying GCSE drama and hopes to continue it for AS.

Anastasia Michanitzis – Mrs Chang

This is Anastasia's first production at The Questors and she is very excited to be playing Mrs Chang and other roles. Outside The Questors, she takes part in both her school's choirs. She hopes you enjoy her performance.

Niamh Murphy – Princess Aouda

Niamh Murphy has attended QYT since 2009. At The Questors, she played the title role in the Christmas musical *Annie* in 2011. Niamh has performed in all her secondary school productions. She would like to remind people to leave food hampers by the stage door.

Alice Reynolds – Sheila/Tammy Lou's Dame

Around the World is Alice's second play at The Questors after last year's production of *The Tempest*. She has also done performances outside of The Questors such as *Mary Poppins* (Bird Lady) and *Wicked* (Galinda).

Dana Rimdjonoka – Yuki/Tammy Lou's Dame/Saloon Hostess

Dana, 14, is in her fourth year at QYT, having attended since Year 7. This is her second Questors production, having appeared in *The Tempest*. Dana has also been going to Stagecoach for eight years where she has learnt a lot about acting, which she loves so much.

Bibi Salmons – Miss Fotherington

Bibi has been a member of QYT for five years and this is her first Questors production. She has appeared in several school productions, such as *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and musicals such as *Grease* and *Hairspray*.

Thalia Shearn – Stanley/Journalist

Thalia has been attending QYT for a year and participated in the summer showcase. This is her first production.

Joseph Silke – Jesse James

Joseph has been a QYT member for a number of years and has been involved in many summer showcases and workshops at The Questors, although this is his first auditioned production here. Outside of The Questors, he is active in school drama activities.

Miranda Simmons – Svetlana/Tammy Lou's Dame

Miranda has been a member of QYT for seven years and has previously taken part in two shows, *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and *Beauty and the Beast*. She has recently been in her school production of *Dracula* as a Vampire Bride.

Anna Sogomonian – Guard

Anna's first stage experience was with the Barbara Speake Stage School. She has since been in school productions such as *Oliver!* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. At The Questors, she was a munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz* and is now enjoying being part of this production.

Lucia Tremonti – Pam/Tammy Lou's Dame

Lucia has appeared here in *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The House of Bernarda Alba* and *The Tempest*. At the age of nine, Lucia joined LAMDA and achieved distinction in all eight exams taken. A highlight in her career was performing at the Royal Opera House.

Orlaith Tully – Helga/Tammy Lou's Dame

Orlaith has attended QYT for the last two years. This will be her first show and she is very excited. She hopes that this will be the first of many productions in which she will take part.

Sarah Zein – Liverpoolian Policeman

This is Sarah's first Questors production, although she has been performing from a young age, appearing in *Peter Pan the Musical* and *High School Musical* among others whilst at the Songtime Academy. She enjoys music, and plays the clarinet and piano at grade 5 and 6.

Caroline Mathias – Choreographer

Caroline has performed in dance, opera, site-specific and interactive theatre, including Tino Sehgal's installation *These associations* in the Turbine Hall at Tate Modern and *Carmen* directed by Aletta Collins. In February, she directed the Amadè Players production of Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* at Goldsmiths, with a chorus of local young people.

Michael Murray – Musical Director

Musician, actor, vocalist and sound designer, Michael has been involved in many West End and touring theatre musicals including *Me and My Girl*, *Chess*, *Summer Holiday* and *West Side Story*. He has played a tumbler at the Old Vic, a rabbit at the National and a dog in W. Ealing.

Anthony Shrubsall – Co-Director

Anthony is a freelance theatre director based in London. He currently has two shows ending national tours: Rosie Wilby's *How (Not) To Make It In Britpop* and *Richard Tyrone Jones's Big Heart*. He is also Chair of Open Ealing (part of the Creative Ealing network).

Tessa Shrubsall – Co-Director

Tessa graduated with distinction in Theatre Studies from Central School of Speech and Drama. She was assistant director of *All Those Endearing Young Charms* performed at the Windsor Fringe Festival, one of the winners of The Kenneth Branagh New Writing Award. She is also a singer in a band called *Blushing Bones*, and in a jazz outfit based in Camden.

Next Questors Productions

TROJAN BARBIE
by Christine Evans
15 – 23 March 2013
The Studio

The Questors Student Group 66 presents its first production: a powerful, poetic and compassionate modern version of *The Trojan Women* – with Barbie Dolls!

ANTIGONE
by Sophocles, translated by Ruth Fairlight and Robert J Littman
12 – 20 April 2013
The Studio

A new translation of this Greek classic of the confrontation between personal loyalties and the power of the state.

Join Us

If you enjoy theatre, why not join us and benefit from membership:

- ✓ Half price personal tickets for Questors productions*
- ✓ Discounted Guest tickets when you bring friends to Questors productions*
- ✓ Children's FREE tickets†
- ✓ Opportunities to be actively involved in our productions
- ✓ Allowed to audition to join our company of actors
- ✓ Exclusive or discounted training courses
- ✓ Access to *iQ* – the members-only website members.questors.org.uk
- ✓ A full-colour members' magazine three times a year
- ✓ Access to exclusive news on *iQ* and email newsletter
- ✓ Monthly programme card
- ✓ Membership of The Grapevine Club
- ✓ Voting rights in the company

*Reduced prices exclude certain events. †Under 18 only, maximum four per event. Must be collected at the performance and accompanied by an adult member.

Introductory offer – as a welcome for first-time members, get your first 12 months' membership for the price of six.

Getting the most from your membership

We have a wide range of opportunities for you to become actively involved front-of-house or backstage. Volunteer help is always needed for selling programmes or stewarding, and training is provided if you'd like to work in Box Office with our computerised system. To meet members in a social setting, volunteer to help behind the Grapevine bar. Backstage staff including stage managers, prop makers, set builders, sound and light designers and operators, painters, wardrobe and costume and set designers are always welcomed; whatever your skills, we'll find a place for you. We also have courses for those wishing to direct.

The Questors has a high standard of acting and, to maintain this, everyone wanting to act must first take an audition. These are held every month – call the Theatre Office for details of forthcoming auditions.

The Questors Youth Theatre – QYT

Our Youth Theatre, QYT, runs weekly drama classes for all ages from 6 to 16. Younger groups meet on Saturday mornings and older ages at weekday teatime. There's often a waiting list for membership, so put your name down now! Details are online at questors.org.uk/qyt.

Cover Image: Elaine Hagan

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