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GIRO DEL MONDO
IN OTTANTA GIORNI
GIRO DEL MONDO



Daniel Gurnea

AROUND THE WORLD

co-production - Metastasio Theater, TPO Company

artistic direction Davide Venturini, Francesco Gandi

performers Běla Dobiášová, Valentina Consoli

choreography Anna Balducci

visual design Elsa Mersi

engineering Rossano Monti

original music Francesco Fanciullacci

sound design Spartaco Cortesi

scenes Livia Cortesi

costumes Annamaria Clemente

pedagogical support Sandra Goos

in collaboration with

Adriaan Luteijn, Chantal De Vries, Introdans (Arnhem, Nederland)

PRESENTATION

“Around the World in 80 Days” extols the adventure of travel as an experience of life, play, knowledge, and risk. Jules Verne’s novel is the pretext to retrace a particular round-the-world journey with contemporary eyes, where geography, history and science provide the backdrop for a choreographic action that engages the audience in an immersive, inclusive and wordless performance. The choreography, set in the era of the Industrial Revolution begins in London, travels through Egypt, India, Hong Kong, Japan and the United States, and ends again in London. Such a long itinerary is a challenge full of unexpected events, a struggle against time that challenges courage, skill, and friendship. The show is an homage to Jules Verne and his scrupulous way of describing places as spaces full of stories as real as they are extravagant. The tale suggests a retro scenario that takes us back to the age of steam engines; in fact, the dancers will be enveloped by large images reconstructed following the style of the time and capable of creating a cinematic space-time. Within this scenario, however, coexist interactive technologies typical of the TPO company with sounds and images connected to the movement of the performers. The body in this show is the real place of the journey in which to lose oneself and then find oneself in the same place.

show suitable for children from 5 to 10 years old
duration: 50’

AROUND THE WORLD

TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD EDUCATIONAL PACK

Around the World is a performance inspired by Jules Verne’s novel “Around the World in 80 Days”.

The dancers observe an antique shop that seems to be a magic place. The time thickens, the room starts turning around, we even travel back in time. The two characters move in an empty scene where projections on three large aligned screens evoking a room of wonder. Here ideas, imagination and travel stories and the age of the French 19th century writer Jules Verne comes to life. Slowly an imaginary way of traveling grows by combining different sensitivities. They travel in many ways, too many cities: Jules Verne’s dreams of traveling around the world is coming true in our century. The story leaves all characters of Jules Verne’s book behind and focuses on traveling around the world.

AROUND THE



I saw a dancer moving lightly, her body was dancing, and it moved me.



THE TPO COMPANY AND INTERACTIVE THEATER

Visual, emotional, immersive theatre. In the TPO shows, the protagonist is the stage space, the images, the sounds and the body. Thanks to the special use of digital design, the shows are transformed into 'sensitive environments' where you can experience the fine line between art and play. Dancers, performers and the audience themselves share the story by exploring new forms of expression beyond barriers of language and culture. In two scenes the images and sound even react on the movement of the dancers.

The work of the TPO Company is directed by Davide Venturini and Francesco Gandi. Together they work as art director of an eclectic team of dancers, choreographers, pedagogists, engineers and artists of image, music and sound.



AROUND THE WORLD



Let's travel to the theater

We travel through the city. Safely. We will work together, pay attention and stay close to each other. We can enjoy traveling together. Let's go into the city to the theater.

There we will meet Compagnia TPO. TPO is creating dance theatre in Prato Italy. Because children love their work so much TPO travels around the world and visits many theaters. What makes the experience so special is that you will feel that you travel around the world on your theatre chair.

We will see the performance called 'Around the world'. A work inspired of the books and age of Jules Verne. It's the title of the experience of being able to travel freely in the world that we will enjoy together. As if there are no borders, no limits, only borders in your imagination.

Welcome in the theatre

You can leave your jackets, bags and bottles.

Please wait. We are almost ready to take off.

The story is about traveling. Do you know the title?

'Around the world'

Thank you, now everyone knows.

Do you need to go to the toilet? This is the time.

Are you ready?

Let's see if the dancers and technicians are also ready to start.



COMING TO THE WORLD



WELCOME WORDS

Welcome in the theatre, welcome in 'Around the world'. It is time to sit on your special chair, put your phone in flight modus, listen, watch and move with us, let's go around the world! Put on your imaginary seat belts. Let's move.



AROUND THE WORLD

A MAGIC ANTIQUE SHOP IN LONDON CALLED JULES'

On the screen we see a lamppost, a character with a top hat and a backpack smoking. Who is he? Where are we? We see an old lantern, a character with a top hat. Who is it? Where are we?

A store magically opens and ushers us into the pages in a Jules Verne book, pulls us into a room with a map of the world and objects that invite us to prepare for a long journey.

To think

What makes your fantasy turning? Do you travel? Do you remember how you start your travels? Did you look at a map? Do you use a suitcase? What will you bring with you on a large trip?

To do

Draw a suitcase and put everything inside you will need on a trip. Drawing, thoughts or just in words. Draw a cityplan that shows the travel from your house to the school. Look at a worldmap or globe. Where do you live? Travel with your fingers around the world. What parts of the world is your finger visiting? Do you recognize countries or continents? Follow your fingers and look where it brings you. Is there a place that you want to travel to?



BEHIND THE WALL

A LONG VOYAGE IN THE TRAIN FROM LONDON TO BRINDISI IN ITALY

The girls have a ticket, a passport and a lot of luggage. They find there wagon.
What a long journey. It is difficult to sleep in the train. What to do?

To think

What do you do when you travel? Do you look outside, sleep, read or invent ways of playing? Or something else?

To do

Invent a playfull situation together in pairs with what you find close around you.
Or make a drawing of the scenery outside a trainwindow.

AROUND THE WORLD



EGYPT

A boat brings us from Brindisi to Suez. We see a Pyramid. We go into the Pyramid and we get lost inside. But fortunately we brought a light.

To think

What do you think that you would see, hear, feel in the Pyramid? And what do you see, hear, feel, in your house? Did you get lost during traveling sometime? Did someone find you or how did you find your way back?

To do

Think in pairs of ways how to find your way back home without a phone.



AROUND THE WORLD

FROM SUEZ TO INDIA BY BOAT

We see a lot of zappelins and we become silent and connected with moon and stars. We make the sea lighten up like plankton, or do we see sirens in the sea?

To think

How can you travel? How can you travel in your mind?

To do

Make drawings of ways you can imagine to travel. It does not need to resemble real ways of traveling. Stick them on little boxes or hang them on a branch and use them as toys to travel. Create or use a big map.



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ARRIVING IN BOMBAY.

AN ELEPHANT BRINGS US IN THE JUNGLE WHERE WE FIND A PALACE

We travel in the jungle by elephant and by foot. We feel the danger of the jungle. We use all our senses and move like animals. We find a palace and even a princess. We listen to music, absorb India, become silent and dance for the princess in the palace.

To think

What do you expect to see, hear, feel, smell in India?

How would you walk in the jungle. What kind of nature do you expect there? What will be on the ground and what behind you? How would you move? How would an Indian dancer move?

To do

Close the eyes and focus on your breathing. Feel the movement of energy inside of you. Listen and hear the silence.

Listen to Indian music and watch dances together. Create your own interpretation of an Indian dance. Do it respectfully. Behave royal, feel beautiful. Start with breathing in silence. One starts with one hand gesture and let it go around in a circle, as a train, a chain reaction, until everyone is moving with the same gesture, then the second one adds a new gesture.

AROUND THE WORLD



BOAT FROM CALCUTTA TO YOKOHAMA IN JAPAN, A DANGEROUS TRIP

Traveling can be hard. Traveling in a boat is not comfortable when the sea is wild.
Everything and everyone goes upside down.

To think

What would you do to keep safe at a wild sea?

To do

Find your way in a dark place with a flashlight.



AROUND THE WORLD

JAPAN

Spring brings vibrant pink colors. The dancers put on their coats to be able to fit in in this special place. The energy moves them and they start moving and turning until it evolves into a colorful circus. Then they take a boat to America.

To think

How did they move?

To do

Create circus without difficult or dangerous movements. Try turning, use a shawl.



THE BOAT FROM JAPAN TO SAN FRANCISCO

The friends are like satellites. One turning slower than the other. They start to move and turn in the same pace.

To think

Do friends need to be on the same pace?

To do

Look at the earth, stars and planets in a book.

FOUND THE TWO



TRAVELING, ALMOST FLYING IN THE UNITED STATES

Still shaken from all the movement in Japan, we start traveling faster and faster and it looks like we are going to fly.

To think

What makes you being in a hurry? How does that make you feel?

To do

Run and fly on the playground in pairs without bumping anyone or anything.



ADORNID FLEW

RAI

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WE DANCE OUR WAY BACK HOME

The travelers became close friends now. They see that traveling home goes well, they are happy to return home and dance together a waltz on a big steam ship.

To think

Is returning to home or friends make you happy?

To do

Draw or make a list of words that make you think of a happy place.
Dance on waltz music.



AROUND THE WORLD

LONDON, HOME

We are waltzing back in the magical shop. We see the man with the top hat walking again. The story ends, we traveled around the world.

To think

Use your fantasy. How would you travel around the world?

To do

Plan your own magical trips. Use maps, globes, books. Draw, make 'to do' lists and enjoy this trip of your fantasy.

Go into your city with a parent and smell, hear, taste, feel cultures in your city. Explore and enjoy the trip, the people, the food. Who do you meet? Ask questions, make contact. Can you find their country or continent on your map or globe?

AND FLEW



SCALE MODEL B.R. LOCOMOTIVE
BARRETT-LOWRE, L.A.S.
NORTHAMPTON

LE TOUR DU MONDE
LE GRAND CONCOURS DE
LA BIENNE

Questions after the show

What did you see?

What did you like?

What happened?

What did you feel?

What story do you think the theatre company wants to tell?

Does the play invite you to make plans to travel?

What kind of ways of traveling did you see?

How would you want to travel?

With who?

Would you return home?

Who traveled far in his life?

Do you have friends that traveled far?

Where do you want to travel to?

Leaving theatre

Thank you for traveling with us and hope to see you again. We will meet you somewhere in this world or universe. Do not forget to take your coats and other luggage. Good travels!

Sandra Goos (ArtPlayground in Holland) for Compagnia TPO, 2025

AROUND THE WORLD



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with the support
of: MIC and the
Tuscany Region for
the Entertainment
Sector*