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**MEDIA PAGE:** [**www.northcoastrep.org/press**](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE:**

***AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS***

**TAKES NORTH COAST REP AUDIENCES**

**ON A WONDROUS, FUN-FILLED JOURNEY**

**Adapted by Mark Brown from the novel by Jules Verne**

**Performances Beginning Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

**Running Through Sunday, February 4, 2018**

**San Diego Premiere**

**Directed by Allison Bibicoff**

Solana Beach, Calif. Stampeding elephants! Runaway trains! Unbridled humor! Reaching new heights! North Coast Rep skyrockets into the New Year with the dazzling San Diego premiere of the Jules Verne classic, ***AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS***, adapted by Mark Brown. Fearless adventurer Phileas Fogg circles the globe lurking with danger, romance and comic surprises at every turn. Five fiercely talented actors portray 42 characters with deft and dexterity, adding to the fast-paced merriment. Described by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel as “somewhere between Monty Python and Groucho Marx,” this stupendous theatrical trip is suitable for the whole family. Book passage now for this outrageously funny adventure.

Allison Bibicoff directs Will Vought,\* Loren Lester,\* Omri Schein,\* Lovlee Carroll\* and Richard Baird.\* The design team includes Marty Burnett (Scenic Design), Matthew Novotny (Lighting Design), Dave Mickey (Sound), Kim DeShazo (Costumes) and Holly Gillard (Prop Design). Cindy Rumley\* is the Stage Manager.

\*The actor or stage manager appears through the courtesy of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States. For background information and photos, go to [www.northcoastrep.org/press](http://www.northcoastrep.org/press).

***AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS*** previews begin Wednesday, January 10. Opening Night on Saturday, January 13, at 8pm. There will be a **special talkback on Friday, January 19,** with the cast and artistic director. It will play Wednesdays at 7pm, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm with Sundays at 7pm, through February 4, 2018 (See Schedule below). North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Tickets: Previews- $42, Week Nights - $49; Sat. Eve. & Sun. Mat. $53; Sat. Mat. & Sun Night - $46. Seniors, Students, Military & Educators - $3 off admission. There is also a $20 rush for tickets one-half hour before performance if available. Call 858-481-1055, or visit [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org) to purchase tickets.

**FACT SHEET**

**WHAT: NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE presents**

***AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY DAYS***

**Adapted by Mark Brown from the novel by Jules Verne**

**Directed by** **Allison Bibicoff**

**CAST: Will Vought,\* Loren Lester,\* Omri Schein,\* Lovlee Carroll\*, and Richard Baird.\***

**WHERE:** North Coast Repertory Theatre

987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Ste. D

Solana Beach, CA 92075

**SCHEDULE** **Previews:** **January 10, 2018**

**Opens: January 13, 2018**

**Closes: February 4, 2018**

**Wed. @ 7pm, Thurs-Sat @ 8PM; Sat & Sun @ 2PM, Sun @ 7pm**

**Talkback with cast & director: Friday, January 19, 2018**

**PRICES:** Previews $42.00

Week Nights $49.00

Sat. Matinees & Sunday Nights $46.00

Sat. Nights & Sunday Matinees $53.00

**DISCOUNTS:**  Seniors, Students, Military & Educators $3.00 off admission. Rush ticket available for $20.

**BOX OFFICE** (858) 481-1055 or [www.northcoastrep.org](http://www.northcoastrep.org)

| **JANUARY** | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SUN** | | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|  | |  |  | 10  Preview  8pm | 11  Preview  8pm | 12  Preview  8pm | 13  OPENING  8pm |
| 14  2pm & 7pm | 15 | 16 | 17  7pm | 18  8pm | 19  8pm  Talkback | 20  2pm & 8pm |
| 21  2pm & 7pm | 22 | 23 | 24  7pm | 25  8pm | 26  8pm | 27  2pm & 8pm |
| 28  2pm & 7pm | 29 | 30 | 31  7pm | **FEB. 1**  8pm | 2  8pm | 3  2pm & 8pm |
| 4  2pm |  |

**BIOS:**

**JULES VERNE** (Author) was born to [bourgeois](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bourgeoisie) parents in the seaport of [Nantes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nantes), where he was trained to follow in his father's footsteps as a lawyer, but quit the profession early in life to write for magazines and the stage. His collaboration with the publisher [Pierre-Jules Hetzel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre-Jules_Hetzel) led to the creation of the “[Voyages Extraordinaires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voyages_extraordinaires),” a widely popular series of scrupulously researched adventure novels including “[Journey to the Center of the Earth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journey_to_the_Center_of_the_Earth)” (1864), “[Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty_Thousand_Leagues_Under_the_Sea)” (1870), and “[Around the World in Eighty Days](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Around_the_World_in_Eighty_Days)” (1873). Verne is generally considered a major literary author in France and most of Europe, where he has had a wide influence on the literary [avant-garde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avant-garde) and on [surrealism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrealism). His reputation is markedly different in [Anglophone regions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English-speaking_world), where he has often been labeled a writer of [genre fiction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genre_fiction) or [children's books](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children%27s_books), largely because of the highly abridged and altered [translations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jules_Verne#English_translations) in which his novels are often reprinted. Verne has been the [second most-translated author in the world](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_most-translated_individual_authors) since 1979, ranking between [Agatha Christie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agatha_Christie) and [William Shakespeare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare). He has sometimes been called the "Father of Science Fiction," a title that has also been given to [H. G. Wells](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/H._G._Wells) and [Hugo Gernsback](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugo_Gernsback).

**MARK BROWN**(Playwright) is an award-winning writer. His play *Around the World in 80 Days* has been produced around the world, from Off-Broadway to Baridhara Dhaka, Bangladesh and has been translated into Turkish. *Tom Jones*, his adaptation of the ribald Henry Fielding novel, received its world premiere in 2014 and has been called, “Clever, silly and highly theatrical!” His musical *China – The Whole Enchilada* was named Outstanding Musical of the 2008 New York International Fringe Festival and has been called “funny, smart, surprisingly deep, and very enjoyable.” Mark’s play *The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge* has been called “a sequel worthy of Dickens’ approval,” and “a worthy new entry into the holiday canon.” His adaptation of *The Little Prince* set box office records at the Hippodrome Theatre and the Orlando Theatre Project. His play *Poe – Deep Into That Darkness Peering* hasn’t won a thing but is a darn good play and should be produced more often. He’s currently working with Paul Mirkovich, his collaborator on *Enchilada*, on a musical adaptation of the novel “Tom Jones.” Mark lives in Los Angeles and dreams of living in a chateau in France.

**ALLISON BIBCOFF** (Director) Favorite credits: Director/Choreographer: *Spelling Bee*, *Smokey Joe’s Café*, *Some Enchanted Evening*(International Tour), *Oliver!*, *The Pajama Game* (Executive Produced by John Raitt), *Fiddler* (in 9 days, including tech, with no assistants!); Choreographer: *The Who’s* *Tommy* (L.A. Drama Critics Circle nomination), *Godspell*, *1776*, *Savin’ Up for Saturday Night* (world premiere). *Spamalot*, *Company* (workshop for Deaf West); Assistant Choreographer for *Xanadu* on Broadway (4 Tony nominations). Two time L.A. Weekly Award nominee and Garland Award winner, Allison specializes in developing new work, and was proud to direct two of the three new musicals chosen for the 2015 ASCAP/Dreamworks Musical Theatre Workshop, moderated by Stephen Schwartz. Favorite performing credits include assistant dance captain and dancing in the national tour of *Swing!,* and swing dancing with Big Bad Voodoo Daddy at The Hollywood Bowl. She executive produced two Hallmark movies: “The Case for Christmas,” starring Dean Cain and “Mistletoe Over Manhattan,” starring Tricia Helfer. [www.AllisonBibicoff.com](http://www.allisonbibicoff.com/" \t "_blank)

**WILL VOUGHT\* (Actor 1)** Will Vought is an actor, stand-up comedian and writer from Long Island, New York.  Theatre credits include: *Orgasms The Play* (Off-Broadway), *Aladdin:  A Musical Spectacular*(Regional).  Television credits include: “The Good Wife,”“Wilfred,”“Bones,”  “Lipstick Jungle,” and "Gotham Comedy Live."   He was seen in the movie “Revolutionary Road” and heard in “Harold & Lillian*:* Hollywood Love Story” *(*Voice of young Harold).  As an accomplished stand-up comedian he has opened for Wayne Brady, Paul Reiser, Kevin Nealon and Kevin James, to name a few.  He has also written for the “The Late Late Show” on CBS.  Mr. Vought is thrilled to make his North Coast Rep Debut!

**LOREN LESTER\* (Actor 2)** is celebrating 40 years as a professional actor. He just appeared at Disney Hall with The L.A. Philharmonic in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Peter Quince & Egeus). He has performed in dozens of plays and musicals in L.A. theaters including *Fallen Angels* at the Pasadena Playhouse. More than 200 TV appearances include “The Orville,” “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” “Scorpion,” and three seasons on the HBO comedy series, “Hung.” Films include Wes Craven’s “Red Eye”and the cult classic “Rock ‘N’ Roll High School*”.* For the last 25 years, Loren has had a large following in the animation world as the voice of “Robin” & “Nightwing.” Loren is married to singer/actress Kelly Lester and together they have three actress-daughters. [www.lorenlester.com](http://www.lorenlester.com/).

**OMRI SCHEIN\*** (Actor 3) Most recently seen in *The Explorer’s Club* with Lambs Players, and in his and Phil Johnson’s premiere comedy, *Withering Heights* with The Roustabouts Theatre Co. North Coast Rep: *Laughter On The 23rd Floor*, *The Underpants*, *Five Course Love,* …*Spelling Bee*, and *The Big Bang*. Tour: *Grease*. New York: *The People vs. Mona*(also Cast Recording), *Hell’s Belles*, *Henry V*. Regional: *When You’,re In Love The Whole World Is Jewish* (Directed by Jason Alexander), *Beau Jest*, *A Funny Thing…Forum*, *Dear World*, *Seussical*, *Disney’s Beauty & The Beast*, others. As a writer: “Gary Goldfarb: Master Escapist” (2013 NYMF Best Lyrics Winner), “Mambo Italiano,” based on the film of the same name, “The Toxic Avenger Xmas Chaos,” “The Grotesques,” others. MFA Musical Theatre SDSU. [www.omri-schein.com](http://www.omri-schein.com)

**LOVLEE CARROLL\*** (Actor 4) Degrees in Theatre and Psychology from IU, Lovlee Carroll has performed in dozens of shows from Mimi in Rent at the Westchester Broadway Theatre in NY to appearing in numerous film and TV shows. She’s studied with Lenard Petit, Artistic Director at The Michael Chekov Studio in New York & studied Stella Adler with Marjorie Ballentine in LA. As a singer, she trained classically with two- time Grammy Award Winner, Sylvia McNair and also performed in the PBS special ‘The Great American Songbook: Masterclass’ with the legendary, Michael Feinstein. Notable TV credits include: How To Get Away With Murder, Scorpion, Grey’s Anatomy, three seasons on the award-winning digital TV show The New Adventures of Peter and Wendy. Lovlee’s Fanpage: https://www.facebook.com/lovleecarroll.fanpage/

**RICHARD BAIRD\*** (Actor 5) is an award winning actor, director and producer.  Twenty productions at North Coast Rep including: *Of Mice and Men*, *Travels with My Aunt*; *Way Downriver; William Faulkner’s ‘Old Man”, Betrayal, The Dumb Waiter, Ghosts* and many more.  Richard is the Founding Artistic Director of New Fortune Theatre Company where he has directed and appeared in *Henry the Fifth* (Craig Noel San Diego Critics Circle awards for Outstanding Direction and Lead Performance*), The Birthday Party* (McCann) and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*(codirector/Valmont).  Richard has appeared in regional theatres across the country including The Old Globe, San Diego Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Portland Centre Stage, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Arizona Theatre Company, Southwest Shakespeare Company (AriZoni Best Actor for Cyrano), Kingsmen Shakespeare and has directed for Intrepid Theatre and Diversionary Theatre.  He is a proud member of Actors Equity.

**CINDY RUMLEY\*** (Stage Manager) Credits include: *The Spitfire Grill, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Ain’t Misbehavin’, Way Downriver; William Faulkner’s ‘Old Man·, Chapatti, Side By Side By Sondheim, Freud’s Last Session, Mandate Memories, Dames at Sea, Two By Pinter,* and *Visiting Mr. Green* with North Coast Rep. *Snapshots* with The Pico Playhouse, *Bye Bye Birdie* with San Diego Musical Theater, and *Conference of the Birds* with The Moscow Art Theater. Cindy holds an M.F.A in stage management from UC Irvine and is a member of Actor’s Equity Association. In her free time, Cindy enjoys being married to the amazing Mr. Aaron Rumley.

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**DESIGN TEAM:**

**MARTY BURNETT** (Resident Scenic Designer) Marty is in his 26th season as Resident Designer/Technical Director at North Coast Rep. He has designed the last 175 shows. Other venues include Laguna Playhouse, Portland Stage Company, Drury Lane [Chicago), Claridge Hotel (Atlantic City), Union Plaza, Sahara Hotel, Hacienda in Las Vegas, Coronado Playhouse, Scripps Ranch Theater, Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Marty is a proud alumnus of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

**MATTHEW NOVOTNY** (Light Design) is pleased to be designing another show for North Coast Rep, where he has designed close to 40 shows over the past seven years. Matthew is currently the Lighting Designer in Residence for San Diego Musical Theatre as well as North Coast Rep, and his work can be seen at a wide variety of theatres across San Diego. Matthew holds a BA in Technical Theatre from San Diego State, and a master’s degree in Lighting Design from Boston University. Matthew is married to his beautiful wife Amanda, with three gorgeous children: Ragan, Harper and Heston.

**DAVE MICKEY**(Sound Design) has designed sound, video, interactive, and lighting for theatre productions at Off-Broadway’s Theatre Row, 59E59 NYC, Virginia Stage Company, International City Theatre, The Colony Theatre, The Rubicon Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, the Chance Theatre, the Blank Theatre, and Syzygy Theatre. Mr. Mickey won the 2014 NAACP Best Sound Design for BREATH & IMAGINATION and the Robert E. Cohen Sound Achievement Award, a national award in sound design sponsored by USITT, three Editor Choice Awards from the Maker Faire, Honorable Mentions for the Garland Awards, Outstanding Achievements by [StageSceneLA.com](http://stagescenela.com/" \t "_blank), and nominations for the LA Weekly Theater Awards. Mr. Mickey holds an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) and is the Department Chair for Theatre and Dance at CSU Fullerton.

**KIM DESHAZO**(Costume Design)Los Angeles theatres that have showcased her work include the Hollywood Bowl, the Gary Marshall Falcon Theatre, Shakespeare Festival/LA, L.A. Opera, Pasadena Dance Theatre, Long Beach Opera, Theatricum Botanicum, the Odyssey Theatre, Andak, College of the Canyons, Long Beach City College, Mt. San Antonio College and Cal State Dominguez Hills. Other L.A. based projects have included industrial shows for Nike, Adidas, Skechers, Cherokee and Diesel clothing. Commercials include AFLAC, Best Buy, DirecTV, Hewlett-Packard, McDonald’s, Mattel and Target. Television and film credits range from "The Real" and an Ozzy Osbourne variety show, to "The Academy Awards" and work for the Disney Channel. Kim teaches and designs all of the Dance and Theatre productions at El Camino College. Here's hoping her third time around the world on this show is as charming to you as it has been for her.

**HOLLY GILLARD** (Prop Design) has been in San Diego for a total of nine years since the Marine Corps brought her from Texas. After serving as an Avionics Technician for five years, she pursued her degree in Liberal Studies. Along the way, she discovered a love for theatre and has been involved in some capacity ever since. In her free time she enjoys rock climbing and spending time with her 12-year-old son. She is thrilled to serve as House Manager Supervisor and Volunteer Coordinator and to have the opportunity to design props. She also is grateful for her newfound family at North Coast Repertory Theatre and looks forward to a wonderful season.

**BACKGROUND:**

Season 36 continues with The West Coast premiere of ***This Random World*** (Feb. 21-Mar.18). Through a swirl of nearly missed connections, the play follows a series of intersecting lives. Warmly humorous and lyrically bittersweet, this play investigates what it is to love, to lose, and be touched by the serendipity of life. Next, British comic genius, Sir Alan Ayckbourn, serves up a fast-paced, funny theatrical meal in ***How the Other Half Loves*** (Apr. 11-May 6). His razor-sharp portrayals of three very different marriages promise to leave audiences in stitches. The much-anticipated West Coast premiere of ***The Father*** follows (May 30-June 24). A sensation in Paris, London and New York, this award-winning play follows 80-year-old Andre, who has memories of being a tap dancer or an engineer, keeps misplacing his watch, lives in Paris or maybe London, and fears he’s losing control. It promises to be a profoundly moving, and memorable evening of theatre. Closing out Season 36 is a little musical comedy by Stephen Sondheim. The time seems ripe for a smart, hysterically comical revival of a hit Broadway laugh-a-minute show called ***A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*.** This timeless musical will bring sheer joy and, infectious high spirits with classic songs like “Comedy Tonight,” “Lovely” and “Everybody Ought to Have A Maid.” **Forum** runs July 11- August 12, 2018.

**About the North Coast Repertory Theatre**:

North Coast Repertory Theatre,under the artistic leadership of David Ellenstein since 2003,is a professional Equity theatre founded in 1982 by Olive and Tom Blakistone. Currently celebrating its 36th season, North Coast Rep has received critical acclaim from media and audiences alike, and has evolved into one of the area’s leading performing arts organizations. North Coast Rep prides itself on employing the majority of its actors from Actors’ Equity Association for its high quality, award-winning productions, and staging works by established and emerging playwrights. Throughout its history, North Coast Rep has created a platform where artist and audience thrive through the intimacy of live theatre, recognizing the power of theatre to challenge complacency, revitalize the imagination, nurture the unexpected, and embrace the variety and diversity in our lives.

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