Ron Jewell in “Mark Twain At-Large”

Having grown up along the Mississippi River himself, Ron Jewell first donned a white suit in the spring of 1974 to try on the likeness of America’s greatest humorist, Samuel Clemens. In those days the characterization lasted just a few minutes, but it wasn’t long before Jewell found himself on the road touring full-time as his alter ego, Mark Twain. That first stage tour lasted over 30 weeks and included some 300 performances throughout the Midwest. Since those early days, the repertoire has expanded and Ron has completed over 2000 plus appearances in over half the states of the US. Today numerous groups call upon Jewell as the “Missouri Wit” for a variety of convention appearances and theatrical presentations.

“Mark Twain At-Large” is Jewell’s full-length one-man theatrical tour de force that seemingly channels the seventy-year-old Clemens one stormy night from his home called Stormfield in Connecticut. Racing in from the thunderous rains, Clemens (a.k.a Twain) invites the audience, his imaginary captured guests, into his private study for an intimate face to face conversation filled with stories and anecdotes taken directly from the literary pages. Jewell’s performance is personable and touching, and delivered as if the humorist is telling the tall tales and yarns for the very first time. Then as quickly as they came, the rains stop, his guests are finally given an opportunity to escape, and the charismatic philosopher sends them out into the night. You’ll believe that you’ve actually spent the evening with the real McCoy.