

Michael Mauldin in “An Evening With Mark Twain”

“An Evening With Mark Twain” is a hilarious and insightful recreation of an actual lecture that the world famous humorist and author would have given during his highly acclaimed world tour culminating in 1905.

After having toured the country several times over the course of the last 15 years, New York actor, Michael Mauldin, brings this theatrical tour-de-force to our stage, undergoing a make up transformation of almost three hours to achieve an uncanny likeness to the 70-year-old “Grand Old Man of American Letters.” Mr. Mauldin initially spent three months researching and compiling the show in the Twain libraries of Hannibal and Hartford, and his years of performing have given him a wealth of material to draw from, so that the material used in the performance constantly varies, much as Twain himself would have lectured at the turn of the century.

In his customary white suit and ever-present cigar, Twain takes us through a fascinating panoply of uproarious comedy, gentle reminiscence, biting social satire, and often dark commentary of the human condition. It’s all seen through the eyes of a man who had been at the top of the literary and social spectrum for most of his life and had reached the age and level of esteem where he felt free to say what was on his mind with almost no fear of censure.

Mr. Mauldin has carefully constructed the format of the show to include as many facets of Twain’s complex and varied personality as possible within his two hour solo performance. With the combination of his published and unpublished novels, short stories, journal notes, autobiography and speeches, the experience proves to be exciting for the Twain aficionado and novice alike.

In addition to his five national tours, and countless appearances on University campuses across the country, Mr. Mauldin’s performance as Twain has been shown on PBS, and his show was adapted into a one hour ABC special entitled, “Mark Twain: Sketches from Life.”

“An Evening With Mark Twain” is an intimate portrait of one of America’s most beloved and controversial figures, and is a “must see” theatrical event.