

Beat: Entertainment

## **MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS With 1934 Famous Detective Hercule Poirot**

**To Be Released on December 13, in FRANCE**

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**USPA NEWS** - Murder on the Orient Express is a 2017 American Mystery Drama Film directed by Kenneth Branagh based on the 1934 Novel of the same name by Agatha Christie...

Murder on the Orient Express is a 2017 American Mystery Drama Film directed by Kenneth Branagh based on the 1934 Novel of the same name by Agatha Christie.

Directed by : Kenneth Branagh

Screenplay by : Michael Green

Produced by : Ridley Scott, Mark Gordon, Simon Kinberg, Kenneth Branagh, Judy Hofflund, Michael Schaefer

Casting : Kenneth Branagh, Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz, Josh Gad, Lucy Boynton, Judi Dench, Daisy Ridley, Michelle Pfeiffer, Willem Dafoe, Olivia Colman, Miranda Raison, Marwan Kenzari

Based on : "Murder on the Orient Express" by Agatha Christie

Distributed by : 20th Century Fox

Running Time : 114 minutes

Release Dates : November 2, 2017 (Royal Albert Hall), November 10, 2017 (United States), December 13, 2017 (France)

### THE STORY

In 1934, famous Detective Hercule Poirot (Kenneth Branagh) solves a theft at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The obsessive compulsive Belgian, who seeks Balance in Life, and considers his case-solving ability to see a lie amid Truth a Curse, wants to rest in Istanbul but must return to London for another Case. His friend Bouc, Director of the Orient Express, offers him a Room on the Train.

Hercule Poirot refuses sinister Businessman Samuel Ratchett's offer (Johnny Depp) to hire him as his Bodyguard during the three-day Journey, as Ratchett has received threatening Letters from an unknown Party. That Night Poirot hears strange noises coming from Ratchett's Compartment, and sees someone in a Red Kimono running down the Hallway. An Avalanche derails the Train and strands the Passengers. The next morning Poirot learns Ratchett was murdered during the night after being stabbed a dozen Times....

### OUR REVIEW

The Ensemble Cast comprises an enjoyable Mix of Actor's Actors, British Institutions, and Hollywood Movie Stars. The whole thing works especially well if you don't remember the Book's Original Ending though it's not exactly spoiled if you do. Written by Blade Runner: 2049 scribe Michael Green, it doesn't try to reinvent Agatha Christie.

Therefore, the Position of Agatha Christie as the Best-Selling Author of all Time seems secure, only Shakespeare threatens her Eminence. All of which means that Kenneth Branagh, the Director of the new "Murder on the Orient Express," and Michael Green, his Screenwriter, are free to do as they like.... So what has changed this time ?

The Opening Page of the Book finds Poirot in Aleppo, and we were hoping that the Movie might pay Tribute, by way of Imaginative Reconstruction, to that all but ruined City. Sadly not. Instead, we begin in Jerusalem and skip to Istanbul, from where the Orient Express sets off on its Long and Winding Route to the Grayer Delights of the Occident....

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