

Hull Truck Theatre presents



Pinocchio

By Carlo Collodi | Adapted by Mike Kenny | Directed by Mark Babych
Music by John Biddle | Lyrics by Mike Kenny and John Biddle

Show Experience Guide

This show experience guide is designed for anyone who may want to familiarise themselves with the show, Pinocchio, before their visit.

The guide includes a visual story, images of the cast and information about light/sound effects and show content.

We also have a venue experience guide which includes photos and information about the theatre itself and what to expect when you arrive and during your visit.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR VENUE EXPERIENCE GUIDE.](#)

Show Running Time: Approx. 2 hours 10 mins (including a break)

Recommended Age: 7+

Guide Content

- Pinocchio at Hull Truck Theatre Social Story
- About the show
- The stage and set
- Cast
- Key characters
- The story
- Light/sound effects
- Relaxed performances and pre-show visit
- Sensory items

Pinocchio Social Story

Many people enjoy seeing stories told by actors at the theatre. This is often called a production. The production of Pinocchio is a story about a person pretending to be a puppet and the experiences they have. This is an actor. There are other actors in the performance. Some pretending to be animals, some as puppets and some as characters other than themselves.

To make the production more interesting the stage production team use items called props. These are sometimes unusual to have indoors. They are sometimes in unusual places. It may be trees, chairs, ladders. They are there to help to create an interesting stage set.

The actors often enter and exit through pretend doors on the stage. These lead to the back of the stage where actors can get changed. The stage and these areas are only for the actors use.

Special effects are also used to create an interesting production. These may be pretend, fire, smoke, occasional loud noises and occasional changing lights.

Many people enjoy these effects. Some people like to bring their ear defenders, sunglasses and a favourite smell sprayed on a tissue, to help them manage these moments and enjoy the production more.

Show production teams often believe when actors leave the stage and move amongst the people watching the production, they will enjoy the production more.

The production team like to sometimes include jokes, words or phrases that are not true or may seem unkind to one of the other actors. This is to create fun and is not real. The actors are pretending.

The people watching the production are called the audience. Because a theatre production is live storytelling, the audience may occasionally join in a little. This may be clapping along. The actors will let the audience know when they would like this to happen.

Many people enjoy the production of Pinocchio. We hope you do too!

About the Show

A lonely carpenter, Gepetto, carves a puppet which the magical Blue Spirit brings to life.

Gepetto sends Pinocchio to school but Pinocchio would much prefer to make friends, go on adventures and join a puppet show.

Whilst on their adventure Pinocchio meets lots of people. Some of them are not so friendly. Cricket, who lives inside Pinocchio's head, helps them to be brave and honest whilst on their journey to becoming real.

The Stage and Set

When you enter the theatre, you will see the stage and set.

The actors will come out on to the stage to perform.

The stage is round and raised off the ground. There are some lights around the edge of the stage.

There are three doors at the back of the stage (one on the left, one in the middle and one on the right). There are lots of trees/branches growing around the doors and trapped in the branches there are ladders, chairs and some lights.

There is a large, red curtain draped around the stage.



The Cast



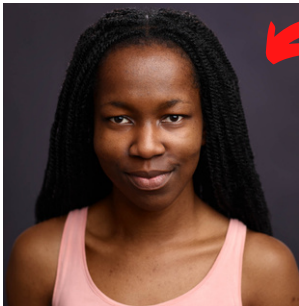
This is Eliza Blair who plays Pinocchio



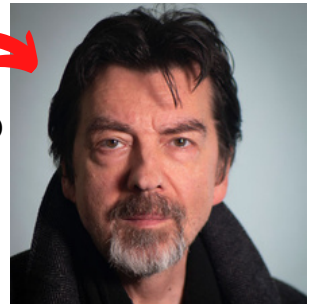
This is Deb Pugh who plays Cricket



This is Fatima Niemogha who plays Blue Spirit



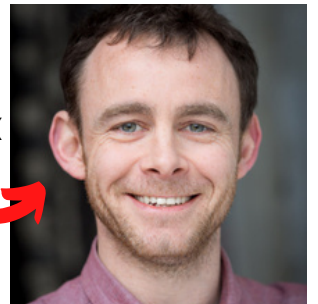
This is James Clyde who plays Gepetto



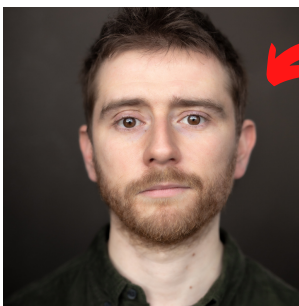
This is Joanna Holden who plays Cat



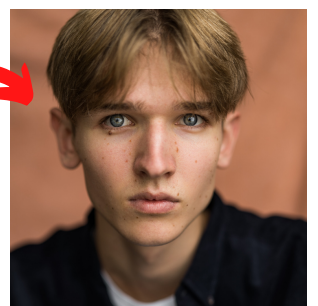
This is Michael Hugo who plays Fox



This is Niall Ransome who plays Lampwick



This is Patrick Dineen who plays MC and Stromboli



Fatima uses British Sign Language (BSL) to communicate and you will see some of the other actors signing too.

Key Characters

Here are the main characters in the play.

Pinocchio

A puppet that the Blue Spirit brings to life



Cricket

A talking cricket



Blue Spirit

A magical blue spirit



Gepetto

A carpenter and Pinocchio's father



Fox
A sly fox



Cat
A mischeveous cat



Lampwick
Pinocchio's friend



MC
Storyteller & Ringmaster

Stromboli
The man who runs the puppet show



The Story



The play begins when a carpenter, Gepetto, finds a piece of wood which he carves into a puppet and wishes it was his child. Blue Spirit uses their magic and Pinocchio comes alive.

We meet Cricket who lives in a hole behind Pinocchio's ear.

Pinocchio wants to become real so Gepetto sends them off to school. On the way to school Pinocchio meets Cat, Fox and Stromboli.

Stromboli runs the puppet show. Pinocchio joins the puppet show, instead of going to school, and they travel to the next town.



Gepetto realises Pinocchio is missing and starts looking for them.

Meanwhile Pinocchio tells Stromboli how they had made a promise to Gepetto, to be good.

Stromboli feels sorry for Pinocchio, gives them some gold coins and lets them leave.



On their way home, Pinocchio runs in to Cat and Fox again. They trick Pinocchio into burying their coins in a field.

Cat and Fox steal the coins and run away.



Pinocchio meets Lampwick. They get on a coach and travel to Funland.

Fox and Cat turn up with magic chocolate bars. Pinocchio and Lampwick eat the chocolate and turn in to donkeys!

Lampwick and Pinocchio are sold to the circus.



Pinocchio does not perform well at the circus so is taken to a cliff by Cat and Fox and thrown into the sea. He is swallowed by a big fish.

Pinocchio quickly realises that Gepetto, his father, has also been swallowed by the same fish and they meet one another inside.



They escape from the fish and Pinocchio swims Gepetto to shore.

There is a final scene with Fox, Cat, Gepetto and Pinocchio before the last song of the show.



Lighting, Sound Effects and Other Content

<u>Effect / Content</u>	<u>Approx Timing</u>
Pinocchio runs up and down the stairs, by the audience, on both sides of the theatre	Approx 17 mins in to Act I
Smoke (water based) comes up out of the stage floor	Approx 20 mins in to Act I Cricket talks to the audience
Smoke (water based) and flickering orange lights that look like flames come up out of the stage	Approx 22.5 mins in to Act I as Pinocchio accidentally puts their legs on the fire
Pinocchio lets out a very loud scream/yell and the stage quickly goes dark	Approx 59 mins in to Act I as Pinocchio throws their coins to Cricket and two characters creep up behind them. This is the end of Act I
Loud music / drums	Immediately as Act II starts after the break
Blue rotating light on the stage	Approx 15 mins in to Act II as the actors circle around the stage and Pinocchio's nose grows.
<p>During the Funland scene there are several lighting effects - see below.</p> <p>During this scene some of the actors wear sunglasses and hats with flashing lights on them too.</p> <p>There are also some coloured strings that light up behind the trees at the back of the stage</p>	<p>This scene begins after the following lines - Pinocchio - "No I have to wait for my Papa" Lampwick - "He's not coming, you're on your own. Suit yourself I'm going." Pinocchio - "I'm coming. By the way, how did you find out about this?" Lampwick - "A scruffy fox and a scabby old cat told me." Approx 19.5 mins in to Act II</p>
Coloured strip lighting in the floor starts to flash and move around the stage. The strip lighting stops moving and the word FUN lights up.	At the beginning of the Funland scene. Lasts approx 10 secs

<u>Effect / Content</u>	<u>Approx Timing</u>
Red/orange light in the middle of the stage slowly pulses in time with the music. The coloured strip lights change colour and pulse quickly.	Immediately following the above effect. Lasts approx 45 secs
Coloured strip lights flash more quickly.	Immediately following the above effect. Lasts approx 3 secs
Red/orange light in the middle of the stage slowly pulses in time with the music. The coloured strip lights change colour and pulse quickly.	Immediately following the above effect. Lasts approx 6 secs. End of Funland scene
Circus ring is brought on stage. The lights around the ring flash in sequence to imitate flickering fire. Smoke (water based) comes up out of the floor.	Approx 25 mins in to Act II
Loud wind noises, blue pulsing lights and strobe lightening effect. The strobe lights are aimed away from the audience, on to the stage	Approx 26 mins in to Act II when Pinocchio (after the circus hoop scene) is thrown in to the sea. Lasts approx 30 secs.
Bright lights (fish) come on to the stage followed by the giant Angler fish puppet with red eyes and loud music.	Approx 27 mins in to Act II when Pinocchio is in the sea as a small puppet. Pinocchio is swallowed by the fish. This scene may be scary to some.
Pinocchio enters via a door at the back of the theatre and comes down the stairs on to the stage	Approx 28 mins into Act II
The coloured strip lighting pulses gently	After the show has ended, the lights on stage come back on and the cast sing Merry Christmas

The big angler fish puppet may seem quite scary but it isn't real and is made from wood, paper and fabric. There is a person inside the fish who moves its mouth and moves it around the stage. There is a big light that hangs in front of the fish's mouth. The eyes also light up.



There is some water based haze used throughout the show - this can look like smoke but is perfectly safe.

There are lots of songs and some loud music throughout the show.

Relaxed Performances

There are relaxed performance of Pinocchio on:

Thursday 7th December at 7pm

Tuesday 12th December at 10.15am

Wednesday 27th December at 2pm

During the relaxed performance the lights inside the theatre will be a bit brighter than usual and we don't mind if you need to get up, move around a little bit or leave the theatre for a break.

There will be a quiet space on the First Floor should you need it.

There will be a resource table on the Ground Floor before each relaxed performance and a pre-show introduction at the advertised show start time. This will allow customers to familiarise themselves with the actors, characters and some of the effects within the show.

If you would like to arrange a pre-show visit to the theatre, to familiarise yourself with the space, please contact paul.bennett@hulltruck.co.uk or call 01482 488208.

Sensory Items

We have a small number of ear defenders available to loan (suitable for baby, toddler and adult) which can be useful for patrons with auditory sensitivities.

We also have a small number of wobble cushions and weighted lap blankets available for loan, along with a range of sensory toys.

Please feel free to bring with you any items that usually assist in coping with busy or noisy environments.

We hope that you enjoy the show and your visit to Hull Truck Theatre.