

= Pinocchio ( 1940 film ) =

Pinocchio is a 1940 American animated musical fantasy film produced by Walt Disney Productions and based on the Italian children 's novel The Adventures of Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi . It was the second animated feature film produced by Disney , made after the success of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs ( 1937 ) .

The plot of the film involves an old wood @-@ carver named Geppetto who carves a wooden puppet named Pinocchio . The puppet is brought to life by a blue fairy , who informs him that he can become a real boy if he proves himself to be " brave , truthful , and unselfish " . Pinocchio 's efforts to become a real boy involve encounters with a host of unsavory characters . The film was adapted by Aurelius Battaglia , William Cottrell , Otto Englander , Erdman Penner , Joseph Sabo , Ted Sears , and Webb Smith from Collodi 's book . The production was supervised by Ben Sharpsteen and Hamilton Luske , and the film 's sequences were directed by Norman Ferguson , T. Hee , Wilfred Jackson , Jack Kinney , and Bill Roberts . Pinocchio was a groundbreaking achievement in the area of effects animation , giving realistic movement to vehicles , machinery and natural elements such as rain , lightning , smoke , shadows and water . The film was released to theaters by RKO Radio Pictures on February 23 , 1940 .

Critical analysis of Pinocchio identifies it as a simple morality tale that teaches children of the benefits of hard work and middle @-@ class values . Although it became the first animated feature to win a competitive Academy Award ? winning two for Best Music , Original Score and for Best Music , Original Song for " When You Wish Upon A Star " ? it was initially a box office disaster . It eventually made a profit in its 1945 reissue , and is considered one of the greatest animated films ever made , with a rare 100 % rating on the website Rotten Tomatoes . The film and characters are still prevalent in popular culture , featuring at various Disney parks and in other forms of entertainment . In 1994 , Pinocchio was added to the United States National Film Registry for being deemed " culturally , historically , or aesthetically significant " .

= = Plot = =

After singing the film 's signature song " When You Wish Upon a Star " , Jiminy Cricket explains that he is going to tell a story of a wish coming true . His story begins in the Tuscany workshop of a woodworker named Geppetto . Jiminy watches as Geppetto finishes work on a wooden marionette whom he names Pinocchio ( a name his cat Figaro and fish Cleo both dislike ) . Before falling asleep , Geppetto makes a wish on a star that Pinocchio would be a real boy . During the night , a Blue Fairy visits the workshop and brings Pinocchio to life , although he still remains a puppet . She informs him that if he proves himself brave , truthful , and unselfish , he will become a real boy , and assigns Jiminy to be his conscience .

Geppetto discovers that his wish has come true , and is filled with joy . However , on his way to school , Pinocchio is led astray by Honest John the Fox and his companion , Gideon the Cat , who convince him to join Stromboli 's puppet show , despite Jiminy 's objections . Pinocchio becomes Stromboli 's star attraction as a marionette who can sing and dance without strings while performing with marionettes of Dutch girls , French can @-@ can girls , and Russian Cossacks . However , when Pinocchio wants to go home for the night , Stromboli locks him up in a birdcage . Jiminy arrives to see Pinocchio , and is unable to free him . The Blue Fairy then appears , and asks Pinocchio why he wasn ' t at school . Jiminy urges Pinocchio to tell the truth , but instead he starts telling lies , which causes his nose to grow longer and longer . Pinocchio vows to be good from now on , and the Blue Fairy restores his nose back to its original form and sets them free , while warning him that this will be the last time she can help him .

Meanwhile , across town , Honest John and Gideon meet a coachman who promises to pay them big money if they can find foolish little boys for him to take to Pleasure Island . Encountering Pinocchio on his way home , they convince him that he needs to take a vacation there . On the way to Pleasure Island , he befriends Lampwick , a delinquent boy . With no rules or authority to enforce their activity , Pinocchio and the other boys soon enjoy smoking , gambling , vandalizing , and

getting drunk , much to Jiminy 's dismay . Later , while trying to get home , Jiminy discovers that the island hides a horrible curse : the boys brought to Pleasure Island literally transform into donkeys , who are then sold into slave labor . Jiminy runs back to warn Pinocchio , only to find that Lampwick fully transformed into a terrified donkey ; Pinocchio manages to escape , only partially transformed .

Upon returning home , Pinocchio and Jiminy find the workshop empty . They soon discover ( through a message left by the Blue Fairy ) that Geppetto had ventured out to search for Pinocchio , but was swallowed by a giant whale named Monstro , and is now living in his belly . Determined to rescue his father , Pinocchio jumps into the sea , with Jiminy accompanying him . Pinocchio is soon also swallowed by Monstro , where he is reunited with Geppetto . Pinocchio devises a plan to make Monstro sneeze , giving them a chance to escape . The plan works , but the enraged whale chases them , and smashes their raft . Pinocchio pulls Geppetto to safety in a cave before Monstro crashes into it . They are all washed up on a beach on the other side . Geppetto , Figaro , Cleo , and Jiminy survive , but Pinocchio lies motionless face down in a tide pool . Back home , the group mourns for him . The Blue Fairy , however , decides that Pinocchio has proven himself brave , truthful , and unselfish , that he is reborn as a real human boy ( his donkey ears and tail also gone ) , and everyone celebrates . Jiminy steps outside to thank the Fairy , and is rewarded by a solid gold badge that certifies him as an official conscience .

= = Cast = =

Dickie Jones as Pinocchio , a wooden puppet carved by Geppetto , and turned into a living puppet by the Blue Fairy . Jones also provided the voice of Alexander , a boy transformed into a donkey .

Cliff Edwards as Jiminy Cricket , a cheerful and wise cricket , who acts as Pinocchio 's " conscience " , and the partial narrator of the story .

Christian Rub as Mister Geppetto , a kind and elderly woodcarver , who creates Pinocchio , and wishes for him to become a real boy .

Walter Catlett as " Honest " John Worthington Foulfellow , a sly anthropomorphic red fox , and the main antagonist of the film , who tricks Pinocchio twice in the film .

Gideon the Cat , Honest John 's mute , crafty , and anthropomorphic feline sidekick . He was originally intended to be voiced by Mel Blanc of Looney Tunes fame ( in his second work for Disney until his final work in Who Framed Roger Rabbit ) , but the filmmakers removed his dialogue from the script in favor of a mute performance ( e.g. Harpo Marx ) just like Dopey in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs . However , Gideon 's hiccups were provided by Blanc .

Charles Judels as Stromboli , a large , sinister , bearded Italian puppet @-@ maker , who forces Pinocchio to perform onstage in order to make money . He speaks with an Italian accent , and curses in Italian when he gets angry , though he is identified as a gypsy . He is the only antagonist of the film to be part of the official Disney Villains line @-@ up . Judels also voiced the devious and sadistic Coachman , owner and operator of Pleasure Island , who enjoys turning unruly boys into donkeys .

Evelyn Venable as The Blue Fairy , who brings Pinocchio to life , and turns him into a real boy at the end of the film .

Frankie Darro as Lampwick , a naughty boy that Pinocchio befriends on his way to Pleasure Island . He is turned into a donkey on Pleasure Island .

= = Production = =

= = Development = =

In September 1937 , during the production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs , animator Norman Ferguson brought a translated version of Carlo Collodi 's 1883 Italian children 's novel , The Adventures of Pinocchio to the attention of Walt Disney . After reading the book " Walt was busting his guts with enthusiasm " as Ferguson later recalled . Pinocchio was intended to be the studio 's

third film , after Bambi . However , due to difficulties with Bambi ( adapting the story and animating the animals realistically ) , it was put on hold and Pinocchio was moved ahead in production .

= = = Writing and design = = =

Unlike Snow White , which was a short story that the writers could expand and experiment with , Pinocchio was based on a novel with a very fixed story . Therefore , the story went through drastic changes before reaching its final incarnation . In the original novel , Pinocchio is a cold , rude , ungrateful , inhuman creature that often repels sympathy and only learns his lessons by means of brutal torture . The writers decided to modernize the character and depict him similar to Edgar Bergen 's dummy Charlie McCarthy , but equally as rambunctious as the puppet in the book . The story was still being developed in the early stages of animation .

Early scenes animated by Frank Thomas and Ollie Johnston show that Pinocchio 's design was exactly like that of a real wooden puppet with a long pointed nose , a peaked cap and bare wooden hands . Walt Disney , however , was not pleased with the work that was being done on the film . He felt that no one could really sympathize with such a character and called for an immediate halt in production . Fred Moore redesigned the character slightly to make him more appealing but the design still retained a wooden feel . Young and upcoming animator Milt Kahl felt that Thomas , Johnston and Moore were " rather obsessed with the idea of this boy being a wooden puppet " and felt that they should " forget that he was a puppet and get a cute little boy ; you can always draw the wooden joints and make him a wooden puppet afterwards " . Hamilton Luske suggested to Kahl that he should demonstrate his beliefs by animating a test sequence . Kahl showed Disney a test scene in which Pinocchio is underwater looking for his father . From this scene Kahl re @-@ envisioned the character by making him look more like a real boy , with a child 's Tyrolean hat and standard cartoon character four @-@ fingered ( or three and a thumb ) hands with Mickey Mouse @-@ type gloves on them . The only parts of Pinocchio that still looked more or less like a puppet were his arms , legs and his little button wooden nose . Disney embraced Kahl 's scene and immediately urged the writers to evolve Pinocchio into a more innocent , naïve , somewhat coy personality that reflected Kahl 's design .

However , Disney found that the new Pinocchio was too helpless and was far too often led astray by deceiving characters . Therefore , in the summer of 1938 Disney and his story team established the character of the cricket . Originally the cricket was only a minor character that Pinocchio killed by squashing him with a mallet and that later returned as a ghost . Disney dubbed the cricket Jiminy , and made him into a character that would try to guide Pinocchio into the right decisions . Once the character was expanded , he was depicted as a realistic cricket with toothed legs and waving antennae , but Disney wanted something more likable . Ward Kimball had spent several months animating a " Soup Eating Sequence " in Snow White , which was cut from the film due to pacing reasons . Kimball was about to quit until Disney rewarded him for his work by promoting him to the supervising animator of Jiminy Cricket . Kimball conjured up the design for Jiminy Cricket , whom he described as a little man with an egg head and no ears . " The only thing that makes him a cricket is because we call him one , " Kimball later joked .

= = = Casting = = =

Due to the huge success of Snow White , Walt Disney wanted more famous voices for Pinocchio , which marked the first time an animated film had used celebrities as voice actors . He cast popular singer Cliff Edwards , also known as " Ukelele Ike " , as Jiminy Cricket . Edwards was a popular entertainer who had made the first million @-@ selling record . Disney rejected the idea of having an adult play Pinocchio and insisted that the character be voiced by a real child . He cast 12 @-@ year @-@ old child actor Dickie Jones , who had previously been in Frank Capra 's Mr. Smith Goes to Washington . He also cast Frankie Darro as Lampwick , Walter Catlett as Foulfellow the Fox , Evelyn Venable as the Blue Fairy , Charles Judels as both the villainous Stromboli and the Coachman , and Christian Rub as Geppetto , whose design was even a caricature of Rub .

Another voice actor recruited was Mel Blanc , best remembered for voicing many of the characters in Warner Bros. cartoon shorts . Blanc was hired to perform the voice of Gideon the Cat . However , it was eventually decided that Gideon would be mute , so all of Blanc 's recorded dialogue was subsequently deleted except for a solitary hiccup , which was heard three times in the finished film .

= = = Animation = = =

Animation began in September 1938 . During the production of the film , the character model department was headed by Joe Grant , whose department was responsible for the building of three @-@ dimensional clay models of the characters in the film , known as maquettes . These models were then given to the staff to observe how a character should be drawn from any given angle desired by the artists . The model makers also built working models of Geppetto 's cuckoo clocks , as well as Stromboli 's gypsy wagon and the Coachman 's carriage . However , owing to the difficulty animating a realistic moving vehicle , the artists filmed the carriage maquettes on a miniature set using stop motion animation . Then each frame of the animation was transferred onto animation cels using an early version of a Xerox . The cels were then painted on the back and overlaid on top of background images with the cels of the characters to create the completed shot on the rostrum camera . Like Snow White , live @-@ action footage was shot for Pinocchio with the actors playing the scenes in pantomime , supervised by Hamilton Luske . Rather than tracing , which would result in stiff unnatural movement , the animators used the footage as a guide for animation by studying human movement and then incorporating some poses into the animation ( though slightly exaggerated ) .

Pinocchio was a groundbreaking achievement in the area of effects animation . In contrast to the character animators who concentrate on the acting of the characters , effects animators create everything that moves other than the characters . This includes vehicles , machinery and natural effects such as rain , lightning , snow , smoke , shadows and water , as well as the fantasy or science @-@ fiction type effects like Fairy Dust . The influential abstract animator Oskar Fischinger , who mainly worked on Fantasia contributed to the effects animation of the Blue Fairy 's wand . Effects animator Sandy Strother kept a diary about his year @-@ long animation of the water effects , which included splashes , ripples , bubbles , waves and the illusion of being underwater . To help give depth to the ocean , the animators put more detail into the waves on the water surface in the foreground , and put in less detail as the surface moved further back . After the animation was traced onto cels , the animators would trace it once more with blue and black pencil leads to give the waves a sculptured look . To save time and money , the splashes were kept impressionistic . These techniques enabled Pinocchio to be one of the first animated films to have highly realistic effects animation . Ollie Johnston remarked " I think that 's one of the finest things the studio 's ever done , as Frank [ Thomas ] said , ' The water looks so real a person can drown in it , and they do . ' "

= = Soundtrack = =

The songs in Pinocchio were composed by Leigh Harline with lyrics by Ned Washington . Leigh Harline and Paul J. Smith composed the incidental music score . The soundtrack was first released on February 9 , 1940 . Jiminy Cricket 's song , " When You Wish Upon A Star " , became a major hit and is still identified with the film , and later as the theme song of The Walt Disney Company itself . The soundtrack won an Academy Award for Best Original Score .

= = Themes = =

M. Keith Booker considers the film to be the most @-@ down @-@ to @-@ earth of the classic Disney animated films despite its theme song and magic , and notes that the film 's protagonist has to work to prove his worth , which he remarked seemed " more in line with the ethos of capitalism " than most of the Disney films . Claudia Mitchell and Jacqueline Reid @-@ Walsh believe that the male protagonists of films like Pinocchio and Bambi ( 1942 ) were purposefully constructed by

Disney to appeal to both boys and girls . Mark I. Pinsky said that it is " a simple morality tale ? cautionary and schematic ? ideal for moral instruction , save for some of its darker moments " , and noted that the film is a favorite of parents of young children .

Nicolas Sammond argues that the film is " an apt metaphor for the metaphysics of midcentury American child @-@ rearing " and that the film is " ultimately an assimilationist fable " . He considered it to be the central Disney film and the most strongly middle class , intended to relay the message that indulging in " the pleasures of the working class , of vaudeville , or of pool halls and amusement parks , led to a life as a beast of burden " . For Sammond , the purpose of Pinocchio is to help convey to children the " middle @-@ class virtues of deferred gratification , self @-@ denial , thrift , and perseverance , naturalized as the experience of the most average American " .

= = Reception = =

= = Initial release = =

Pinocchio went into release accompanied by generally positive reviews . Frank S. Nugent of The New York Times gave the film five out of five stars , saying " Pinocchio is here at last , is every bit as fine as we had prayed it would be ? if not finer ? and that it is as gay and clever and delightful a fantasy as any well @-@ behaved youngster or jaded oldster could hope to see . " Time gave the film a positive review , saying " In craftsmanship and delicacy of drawing and coloring , in the articulation of its dozens of characters , in the greater variety and depth of its photographic effects , it tops the high standard Snow White set . The charm , humor and loving care with which it treats its inanimate characters puts it in a class by itself . " The film won the Academy Awards for Best Original Song and Best Original Score , the first Disney film to win either .

Initially , Pinocchio was not a box @-@ office success . The box office returns from the film 's initial release were both below Snow White 's unprecedented success and below studio expectations . Of the film 's \$ 2 @. @ 289 million negative cost ? twice the cost of Snow White ? Disney only recouped \$ 1 million by late 1940 , with studio reports of the film 's final original box office take varying between \$ 1 @. @ 4 million and \$ 1 @. @ 9 million . Animation historian Michael Barrier notes that Pinocchio returned rentals of less than one million by September 1940 , and in its first public annual report , Walt Disney Productions charged off a \$ 1 million loss to the film . Barrier relays that a 1947 Pinocchio balance sheet listed total receipts to the studio of \$ 1 @, @ 423 @, @ 046 @. @ 78 . This was primarily due to the fact that World War II and its aftermath had cut off the European and Asian markets overseas , and hindered the international success of Pinocchio and other Disney releases during the early and mid @-@ 1940s . Joe Grant recalled Walt Disney being " very , very depressed " about Pinocchio 's initial returns at the box office . RKO recorded a loss of \$ 94 @, @ 000 for the film .

= = Modern acclaim = =

Many film historians consider this to be the film that most closely approaches technical perfection of all the Disney animated features . Film critic Leonard Maltin said , " with Pinocchio , Disney reached not only the height of his powers , but the apex of what many critics consider to be the realm of the animated cartoon . " Despite its initial struggles at the box office , a series of reissues in the years after World War II proved more successful , and allowed the film to turn a profit . By 1973 , the film had earned \$ 13 million from the initial 1940 release and four reissues ; further reissues in subsequent years have brought Pinocchio 's lifetime gross to \$ 84 @, @ 254 @, @ 167 at the box office .

In 1994 , Pinocchio was added to the United States National Film Registry as being deemed " culturally , historically , or aesthetically significant " . Filmmaker Terry Gilliam selected it as one of the ten best animated films of all time in a 2001 article written for The Guardian and in 2005 , Time named it one of the 100 best films of the last 80 years , and then in June 2011 named it the best

animated movie of " The 25 All @-@ TIME Best Animated Films " .

In June 2008 , the American Film Institute revealed its " Ten top Ten " ? the best ten films in ten " classic " American film genres ? after polling over 1 @,@ 500 people from the creative community . Pinocchio was acknowledged as the second best film in the animation genre , after Snow White . It was nominated for the AFI 's 100 Years ... 100 Movies , and received further nominations for their Thrills and Heroes and Villains ( Stromboli ) lists . The song " When You Wish Upon A Star " ranked number 7 on their 100 Songs list , and the film ranked 38th in the 100 Cheers list . The quote " A lie keeps growing and growing until it 's as plain as the nose on your face " was nominated for the Movie Quotes list , and the film received further nomination in the AFI 's Greatest Movie Musicals list .

On Rotten Tomatoes , a website which aggregates film reviews , the film has the website 's highest rating of 100 % , meaning every single one of the 41 reviews of the film , from contemporaneous reviews to modern re @-@ appraisals , on the site are positive . The general consensus of the film on the site is " Ambitious , adventurous , and sometimes frightening , Pinocchio arguably represents the pinnacle of Disney 's collected works - it 's beautifully crafted and emotionally resonant . "

= = Reissues and home media = =

With the re @-@ release of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in 1944 came the tradition of re @-@ releasing Disney films every seven to ten years . Pinocchio was theatrically re @-@ released in 1945 , 1954 , 1962 , 1971 , 1978 , 1984 , and 1992 . RKO handled the first two reissues in 1945 and 1954 , while Disney itself reissued the film from 1962 on through its Buena Vista Distribution division .

In 1985 it was the first Disney animated feature released on VHS . The 1992 re @-@ issue was digitally restored by cleaning and removing scratches from the original negatives one frame at a time , eliminating soundtrack distortions , and revitalizing the color .

The more comprehensive digital restoration that was done for the 1992 re @-@ issue was released on VHS in 1993 , followed by its fourth VHS release and first release on Disney DVD in 1999 . The film was not included in the Walt Disney Masterpiece Collection line , although early printings of the 1999 VHS did use the Masterpiece Collection logo . The second Disney DVD release and final issue in the VHS format premiered as part of the Walt Disney Gold Classics Collection VHS / DVD line on March 7 , 2000 . A special edition VHS and DVD of the film was released in the United Kingdom on March 3 , 2003 . The UK Special Edition VHS featured the 1992 Walt Disney Classics logo at the beginning of the tape . The fourth DVD release and first Blu @-@ ray Disc release ( the second Blu @-@ ray in the Walt Disney Platinum Editions series ) was released on March 10 , 2009 . Like the 2008 Sleeping Beauty Blu @-@ ray release , the Pinocchio Blu @-@ ray package featured a new restoration by Lowry Digital in a two @-@ disc Blu @-@ ray set , with a bonus DVD version of the film also included . This set returned to the Disney Vault on April 30 , 2011 .

= = Legacy = =

In 1987 , Filmmation released a " thin @-@ veiled " animated sequel to Pinocchio , entitled Pinocchio and the Emperor of the Night . Set a year after Pinocchio became a real boy , the movie received mainly negative reviews from critics and was a commercial failure . Disney sued Filmmation for copyright infringement , but Filmmation won the lawsuit on the grounds that Collodi 's work is in the public domain . In the mid @-@ 2000s , DisneyToon Studios began development on a sequel to Pinocchio . Robert Reece co @-@ wrote the film 's screenplay , which saw Pinocchio on a " strange journey " for the sake of something dear to him . " It 's a story that leads Pinocchio to question why life appears unfair sometimes , " said Reece . John Lasseter cancelled Pinocchio II soon after being named Chief Creative Officer of Walt Disney Animation Studios in 2006 .

Many of Pinocchio 's characters are meetable characters at Disney parks . Pinocchio 's Daring Journey is a popular ride at the original Disneyland , Tokyo Disneyland , and Disneyland Park in Paris . Pinocchio Village Haus is a quick service restaurant at Walt Disney World that serves pizza

and macaroni and cheese . There are similar quick @-@ service restaurants at the Disneyland parks in Anaheim and Paris as well , with almost identical names .

Disney on Ice starring Pinocchio , toured internationally from 1987 to 1992 . A shorter version of the story is also presented in the current Disney on Ice production " One Hundred Years Of Magic " .

Aside from the Sega Genesis / Mega Drive , Game Boy , and SNES games based on the animated film , Geppetto and Pinocchio also appear as characters in the game Kingdom Hearts . The inside of Monstro is also featured as one of the worlds . Jiminy Cricket appears as well , acting as a recorder , keeping a journal of the game 's progress in Kingdom Hearts , Kingdom Hearts : Chain of Memories , and , Kingdom Hearts II . Pinocchio 's home world was slated to appear in Kingdom Hearts 358 / 2 Days , but was omitted due to time restrictions , although talk @-@ sprites of Pinocchio , Geppetto , Honest John and Gideon have been revealed . As compensation , this world appears in Kingdom Hearts 3D : Dream Drop Distance , under the name " Prankster 's Paradise " , with Dream world versions of Pinocchio , Jiminy Cricket , Geppetto , Cleo , Monstro and the Blue Fairy appearing .

= = Live @-@ action film = =

On April 8 , 2015 , Deadline reported that Disney is developing a live action film based on the animated Pinocchio , with Peter Hedges penning the script .