

Media Release

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Alberta Opera presents



Adapted by: Jeff Unger and Farren Timoteo
Music by: Jeff Unger | Directed by: Farren Timoteo

Alberta Opera's lively new musical adaptation whisks audiences away to sunny Italy's scenic hills. Part of Fringe Theatre Adventures' **Arts At The Barns** series, ***Pinocchio*** runs **October 27 – 30 and November 4** in the TransAlta Arts Barns' **Westbury Theatre** (10330 84 Avenue). Tickets are available at the **Fringe Theatre Box Office**, (780) 409-1910 or www.fringetheatre.ca.

Geppetto, a lonely puppet maker, spends his days and nights working in his shop consumed by one simple wish: the company of a son. His greatest dream is realized when his favourite creation, Pinocchio, magically comes to life! When Pinocchio embarks on an incredible journey, he encounters outlandish characters, perilous danger and Squalo, the giant shark of the Mediterranean.

Pinocchio features **Madeleine Knight** as Pinocchio, **Byron Martin** as Gepetto and **Christopher Scott** as Vincenzo, with piano accompaniment by **Erik Mortimer**. **Adam Tsuyoshi Turnbull** is Production Manager, **Naomi Lagerweij** Stage Manager, **Daniela Masellis** Set and Costume Designer, **Marie Muggeridge** Lighting Designer, and **Leslea Kroll** Interim Tour Coordinator.

Alberta Opera was founded in 1984 with a mandate to perform traditional opera for children around the province. Now in its 28th season, the multiple Sterling-Award winning company is recognized as a fundamental cultural experience in theatres and schools across Western Canada, and its celebrated musical theatre adaptations of fairy tales entertain adults and young audiences alike. Last year alone, Alberta Opera put on 250 performances, bringing musical theatre to more than 70,000 children throughout the province.

Tickets to *Pinocchio* are **\$12.50** for children, **\$15** for students/seniors and **\$18** for adults. For more information about Alberta Opera, please visit www.albertaopera.com. For details about Arts At The Barns or Fringe Theatre Adventures, please visit www.fringetheatre.ca.