

Roberto Benigni' s life



Roberto Benigni was born on October 27, 1952 in a small village near Arezzo, Italy from poor parents.

He was the last of four children. Raised in poverty in a Tuscan village called Vergaio, Benigni grew up without toys to play with, that's why he made up stories from his own imagination to spend his time and have fun.

Benigni was not a good-looking child. His mother was convinced that at birth he had been bewitched and she spent a lot of time trying to find out a remedy that might break this spell. He was sent to a priest school in Florence. After a few months, a flood destroyed his school. Afraid and alone, he found his way back home. This change would lead Benigni's life into another direction. The arrival of a circus in his village attracted his fantasy: in particular, he loved the clowns, the flying trapeze, the magicians and the lions. He managed to get his first job helping magician with his magic tricks for a couple of months! Then he burned his hand on "a trick that didn't work so good". So he left that job too. He says "I was saved from two jobs, one from water, one from fire". Soon after, he tried acting in '72 with several of his friends. He travelled to Rome where he worked in the Satiri theatre. He got his first movie role in 1977 in *Berlinguer Ti Voglio Bene*. He made many other films such as *La Voce Della Luna*, *Tu Mi Turbi*, *Johnny Stecchino*, *The Little Devil*, *Il Papocchio* and *Il Minestrone* but Benigni's greatest moment came on the release of his film *Life is Beautiful* in 1998. The film was then nominated for 7 Motion Picture Academy Awards of which it received three.

Roberto Benigni lives in Rome with his wife, an actress and often co-star in his films, Nicoletta Braschi.

Rebecca Degl'Innocenti, Amina Bendaoui 2 B/L

THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO

'*The Adventures of Pinocchio*' were published by Carlo Lorenzini, known under the pen name of Carlo Collodi, in 1883.

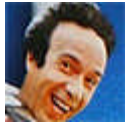
The great impression the book made on Benigni during his Tuscan childhood and the regret of not taking part in the film "*Pinocchio*" with Fellini, have pushed Benigni to bring to the screen the classic story of the wooden puppet.

Using Carlo Collodi's masterpiece as its source, the film is a journey in the enchanting world of Pinocchio and his friends.

PINOCCHIO



The Cast



Roberto Benigni

Pinocchio



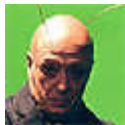
Nicoletta Braschi

Blue Fairy



Alessandro Bergonzoni

Circus Director



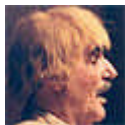
Peppe Barra

Talking Cricket



Luis Molteni

Butter Man



Carlo Giuffrè

Geppetto



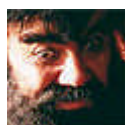
I Fichi d'India

The Cat and the Fox



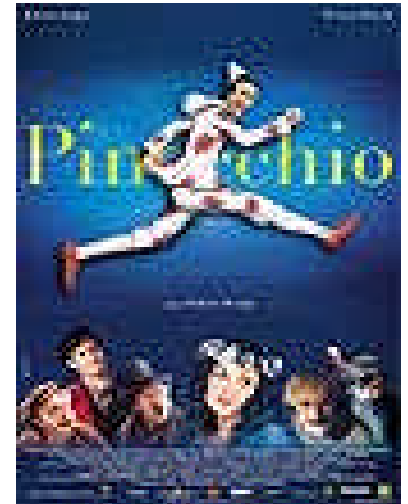
Kim Rossi Stuart

Lucignolo



Franco Javarone

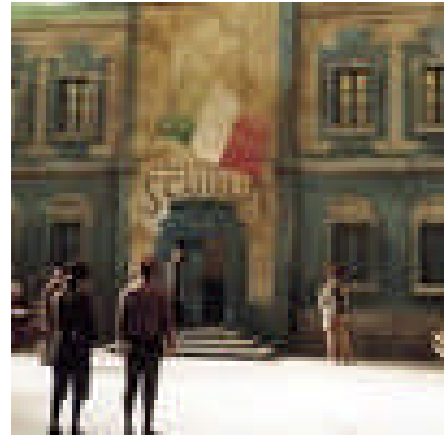
Mangiafuoco



THE SETTING

Pinocchio was shot in the same Umbrian chemical plant-turned-studio where Benigni made his 1997 hit *Life Is Beautiful*. This place is called Papigno and is situated near the famous Marmore Falls and Piediluco Lake.

Rebecca Meioli 2B/L



THE PLOT

The story starts with a piece of wood, an ordinary piece of wood. The carpenter Geppetto carves it and it becomes Pinocchio, a very disobedient puppet. Geppetto loves it as a son, but this puppet often escapes from home and its nose grows whenever he tells a lie. It always returns home very hungry but then it escapes again. In this magic story, Pinocchio will meet many fantastic characters: the cat and the fox, who want to steal Pinocchio's money, the fairy with blue hair, who will turn Pinocchio into a boy if he becomes a good puppet, Lucignolo, a very bad boy who will bring Pinocchio into the land of toys, an evil puppeteer and a giant fish.

At the end, Pinocchio will learn honesty and he will become a real boy.



Benedetta Bitozzi 2 B/L



THE ACTORS AND THE CHARACTERS

Roberto Benigni is the principal actor in Pinocchio. He's a very popular Italian actor, he has done many films, but the most famous is *Life is beautiful* and, for this, in 1998 he received seven Oscar nominations - including best picture - and won three (best score, best actor, best foreign film).

Benigni's has often made films with his wife, Nicoletta Braschi, a very good actress. In this film she interprets the Blue Fairy. It is her who helps

Pinocchio to become a honest child.

The Fichi d'India, a comic couple very popular at the moment in Italy, interpret the cat and the fox.

They are the bad characters in the story because they lead Pinocchio towards the wrong way.

The famous puppet-child is at first represented as indolent and influenced by bad companies, and in the end as obedient and studious.

Benedetta Batisti -Sara Beccani- Natalia Ciampi 2B/L

PINOCCHIO'S SONG (Benigni-Cerami-Piovani)

What impressed me most was Pinocchio's song. It was written by two important Italian musicians - Cerami and Piovani- and Benigni himself.

It's apparently meaningless, full of onomatopoeic sounds and repetitions but it contains all the world of Benigni when a child: the school, the teacher, the police officer and the cock always present in poor Italian rural families in the fifties .

When the song is sung, the nonsense of the words turns into a sweet sound which enchants the listeners. It's a sort of hymn to joy and happiness.

I have done my best in this translation to convey the spontaneity of certain dialectal expressions still used in the Tuscan countryside.



<p>Quando spunta il sole fa cri cri, e se vado a scuola anche il maestro fa cri cri.</p> <p>Quando il gallo canta cricca il dì E poi torno a casa e anche il mio babbo fa cri cri</p> <p>Proprio come mi piace il lunedì Il carabiniere sotto i baffi fa cri cri.</p> <p>Fa venire sonno l'abbicci, gl'è che noi ragazzi siam così, tutti così: a noi un ci garba punto quel cri cri!</p> <p>Ma un giorno andando un po' di qua e di là Col cuore zeppo zuppo di felicità Sapete cosa dissi cra cra Poi lo ridissi forte cra cra craMa quant'è vita la vita.....</p> <p>E poi rispunta il sole rifà cri cri Poi ho tanta fame e anche la pancia fa cri cri.</p> <p>Come vorrei mordere un cachi, il carabiniere sotto i baffi fa no no!</p> <p>Sette e quattro dodici non so, faccio un sogno brutto dove tutti fan così cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri di qua e di là cri cri di qui e di lì a me un mi garba punto quel cri cri!</p>	<p>When the sun rises it makes cri cri And if I go to school the teacher too makes cri cri.</p> <p>When the cock crows a new day rises And then I come back home and my dad too makes cri cri.</p> <p>Just as I like Monday The police officer under his moustache makes cri cri.</p> <p>The ABC makes us sleepy, The point is we boys are all alike: we don't like that cri cri at all.</p> <p>But one day while walking here and there crammed full with happiness Guess what I first said: cra cra Then I cried cra cra cra againHow full of life life is....</p> <p>And then the sun rises again, again it makes cri cri then I'm pretty hungry and my stomach too makes cri cri.</p> <p>Oh, how I'd like to bite a persimmon, The police officer under his moustache says no no!</p> <p>Seven and four is twelve- I don't know, I've a bad dream where everybody makes cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri cri here and there cri cri here and there I don't like that cri cri at all !</p>
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<p>.....Ma quant'è la vita</p> <p>Quando spunta il sole fa cri cri Fa cri cri anche il gallo non fa più chicchirichì</p> <p>Il maestro a scuola fa cri cri Vado a letto e il letto cigolando fa cri cri</p> <p>Sento un suono allegro do re mi Ma mi si confonde in mezzo a tutti quei cri cri</p> <p>Cri cri cri cri cri cri cri Gl'è che a noi ragazzi non ci garbano quei cri cri</p>	<p>....But how 's life!</p> <p>When the sun rises it makes cri cri it makes cri cri- even the cock doesn't make cock-a-doodle-do.</p> <p>At school the teacher makes cri cri I go to bed and the bed creaks and makes cri cri.</p> <p>I hear a cheerful sound do re mi I get confused in the middle of all those cri cri.</p> <p>Cri cri cri cri cri cri cri The point is we boys don't like those cri cri.</p>
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Greta Martelloni 2B/L

WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THE FILM

Many people, especially the children, when going out of the cinema ,say: “Oh, what a beautiful film!” and while speaking they touch their noses!!!

Some critics say the film is a bit childish and Benigni isn't very good at acting!!!

Personally, I can't say if Benigni is a good, excellent or poor actor. I can only say that he gives a wonderfully spontaneous performance, full of humour and comic situations .

I also think that Pinocchio is a film not only for children but for all the people who believe in dreams!!! In real life, there are both cats and foxes, that is, temptations!...Which of us hasn't got temptations?

I strongly recommend to go to the cinema and see a very good and nice film!

And you.....What do you think about Pinocchio? If you have seen the film, why not exchange opinions and points of view? I look forward to receiving your views. Write numerous.

Arianna Novi 2B/L



*See you at the
cinema!!! ..and
don't tell lies!!*