

Disney
**MY SON
PINOCCHIO**
Geppetto's Musical Tale

Disney's *My Son Pinocchio: Geppetto's Musical Tale* is a musical based on Disney's 2000 made-for-television movie *Geppetto*, which was in turn based on a book by David Stern, and features music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. Much like the movie, *My Son Pinocchio* is a re-telling of the children's book *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, but the story is told from Geppetto's perspective. As in the TV film, when Pinocchio runs away to become a star in Stromboli's puppet show, Geppetto must negotiate through a maze of adventures and comic encounters to find him.

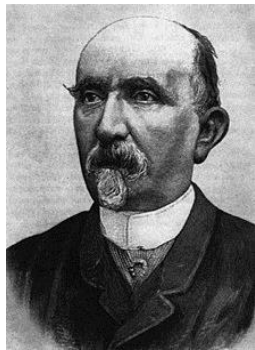
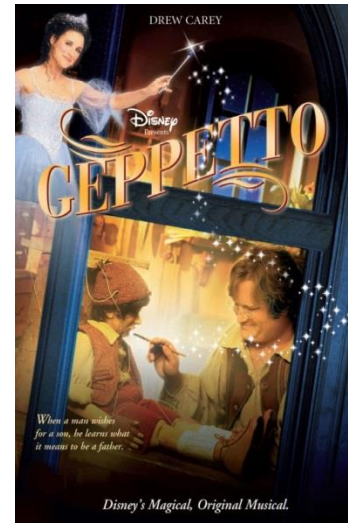


When the Blue Fairy grants Geppetto's wish to bring his beloved puppet to life, the new father quickly learns that being a parent is full of challenges. He struggles to make his son "the perfect boy," only to lose him to a gang of Roustabouts. It is only when faced with the thought of never seeing Pinocchio again that Geppetto truly learns the joys of being a father and loving one's child unconditionally

The musical premiered under its former name, *Disney's Geppetto & Son*, at The Coterie Theatre, Kansas City, Missouri in 2006. It features the beloved classic songs, "When You Wish upon a Star" and "I've Got No Strings," alongside a host of new songs by Oscar- and Grammy Award winner and master melodist, Stephen Schwartz, tackling timely issues about what it means to be "the perfect child" – and what it means to be "a real father."

adapted from Wikipedia and Music Theatre International

Geppetto, upon which *My Son Pinocchio* is based, is musical remake of the popular children's book *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and the original 1940 Disney film. Debuting on *The Wonderful World of Disney*, it starred Drew Carey as Gepetto and Julia Louis-Dreyfus as the Blue Fairy.



Carlo Collodi, author (November 24, 1826-October 26, 1890)

Carlo Collodi is the pen name of **Carlo Lorenzini**, an Italian author and journalist, widely known for his world-renowned fairy tale novel *The Adventures of Pinocchio*.

His early career was devoted to an active interest in political matters. He founded several newspapers which allowed him to express his views on a unified Italy.

In 1875, he entered the realm of children's literature with adaptations of French and Italian fairy tales. He became fascinated by the idea of using an amiable, rascally character as a means of expressing his own convictions through allegory. In 1880 he began writing "The story of a marionette". Also called *The Adventure of Pinocchio*, which was published weekly in *Il Giornale per i Bambini*, the first Italian newspaper for children. Pinocchio was adapted into a 1940 film by Disney that is considered to be one of Disney's greatest.

The Adventures of Pinocchio has been adapted in over 260 languages worldwide. That makes it the most translated non-religious book in the world, and one of the best-selling books ever published. In recent years, the book has sold over 80 million copies, while the precise total sales are unknown because of the many public domain re-releases since 1940. According to Francelia Butler, it remains "the most translated Italian book and, after the Bible, the most widely read".

adapted from Wikipedia





Stephen Schwartz, lyricist (March 6, 1948-present)

Stephen Lawrence Schwartz is an American musical theatre lyricist and composer. In a career spanning over four decades, Schwartz has written such hit musicals as *Godspell* (1971), *Pippin* (1972) and *Wicked* (2003). On March 23, 2006, the Broadway production of *Wicked* passed the 1,000 performance mark, making Schwartz one of four composers (the other three being Andrew Lloyd Webber, Jerry Herman and Richard Rodgers) to have three shows last that long on Broadway. In 2007, Schwartz joined Jerry Herman as being one of only two composer/lyricists to have three shows run longer than 1,500 performances on Broadway.

He has contributed lyrics for a number of successful films, including *Pocahontas* (1995), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1996), *The Prince of Egypt* (1998; music and lyrics) and *Enchanted* (2007). Schwartz has won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding lyrics, three Grammy Awards, and three Academy Awards and has been nominated for six Tony Awards.



David I. Stern, book

Tony Award winner **David I. Stern** began his career working on the Broadway productions of *Miss Saigon*, *Nick & Nora*, and *Big*. He was soon infected with the desire to put pen to paper and wrote the plays *Dreams & Stuff* and *Finders of Lost Luggage*. After a small detour into directing with the New York revival of *Starting Here, Starting Now* ...and a stint with The American Project at Circle in the Square, he transitioned into radio by writing for NPR's *The 1990's Radio Hour and a Half*.

Following the particularly cold winter of 1996, David migrated west to write numerous movies including: *Geppetto*, *Open Season 2*, *Open Season 3*, and *Free Birds*. David has contributed to many motion pictures including: *First Daughter*, *The Smurfs*, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, *Tinkerbell 3*, *Open Season*, and *Hotel Transylvania*.

For the stage, David wrote the musicals *Snapshots* and *My Son Pinocchio* with longtime collaborator and renowned songwriter Stephen Schwartz. He has helped finance several Broadway shows including *Wicked*, *Next to Normal*, *The Pee Wee Herman Show*, and *If/Then*; and is currently producing the powerful, original musical *Dear Evan Hansen* (winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, winner Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Musical, winner Drama League Award for Outstanding Production of a Musical).

For television, David wrote and produced on the series *Mozart in the Jungle* (winner of the Golden Globe Award for Best Comedy Series).

adapted from davidstern.com