Pinocchio at The Festival Theatre

opera North's production makes a return to entertain a new generation of opera-goers, after its great success when it premiered three years ago and their website promises that they have loads to tell you about it, including video, music clips, a kids storybook, cast interviews, reviews, and a gallery full of initial designs and production shots.

Created by talented duo, Jonathan Dove and librettist, Alasdair Middleton, it is based on the original 1883 book by Carlo Collodi.

Enter a fairytale world full of colourful characters, and join Pinocchio on his quest to become a real boy. Guided by the Blue Fairy and chirruping Cricket, Pinocchio still can't help tumbling nose first into trouble: he's tricked by the sly Fox and clever Cat, his lying nose is pecked by woodpeckers, he's captured in the Big Green Fisherman's net and is even turned into a performing donkey. Spellbinding music, memorable songs fantastical magical set shape this and а production, which captures all the inventiveness and charm of the original creation.

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Photo by Robert Workman

Bringing this irresistible story to life is most of the original cast and creative team. Including the mezzo-soprano Victoria Simmonds (Dorabella, *Così fan tutte* 2009/10), as Pinocchio, soprano Mary Plazas, singing The Blue Fairy and the renowned baritone, Jonathan Summers, as Geppetto, Pinocchio's Father.

Booking details on the Festival Theatre website