

Arturo Brachetti

The greatest quick change performer in the world

Press kit



BIOGRAPHY

Arturo Brachetti is the a worldwide famous and hailed Italian performer considered the Master of quick change. In many countries he is considered as a living myth in the acting world and the visual performing art. He is also an thoughtful and passionate producer and art director ranging from comedy to musical, from magic acts to variety shows.

Arturo "appears" in Turin, Italy – a magic city par excellence – in 1957 but his performing career kicks off in Paris, where, as a quick change performer unique in the world, he reinvents and brings back to life Fregoli's forgotten masterclass, becoming the highlight at the Paradis Latin for years. At that time Arturo is only 20 years old. Since then his career is soaring, in a ceaseless crescendo that marks his success as **one of the few renowned Italian artists who manage to make their name internationally.**

Today Brachetti is the greatest quick change performer in the world, with a "gallery" of over 400 characters, out of which 100 performed in one single show. He brings his large artistic experience to the stage: masterclass in the art of instant costume changing, sand art, mime, hand shadows... his repertoire is ever-evolving.

Among his numerous awards the **Molière Award** (FR) and the **Laurence Olivier Award** (UK). In 2014 he was bestowed with the title of "**Commendatore**" by the President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano, on his own initiative.

Throughout his career "the most popular tuft of Italy" has been an all-rounder in the entertaining world, taking up the challenge on stage as well as in front of a camera and, lately more and more, in the backstage. Arturo as a **producer and art director** mixes the art of quick change, comedy, conjuring, lights and shadows skillfully, blending them with poetry and culture. Both in Italy and abroad he has directed shows and concerts along with successful plays and musicals. His "**historical**" and **special relationship with the italian trio Aldo, Giovanni & Giacomo** stands out. He has been their director since their debut with *I Corti*.

In Paris in 2013/14 he is once again the protagonist of the theatre season with **Comedy Majik Cho** (running for 110 sold out nights in 4 months) that he will bring back to the stage in September 2014 in France, Belgium and Switzerland. In France he has also played the role of the judge for two Seasons in **The Best**, a successful prime-time tv show with the best professional performers on TF1.

In 2015 and 2016 he brings over to the stage **Brachetti che sorpresa!** that will be touring in Italy (170 plays and more than 200.000 tickets sold). There Arturo leads a group of weird travellers who got lost in a limbo full of abandoned suitcases.

His last one man show **SOLO – The master of quick change** is now in tour around Europe from November 2016 with more than 190.000 tickets sold.

Arturo Brachetti is an international figure who is often travelling the world, but he has a **strong bond with Italy** bringing over to the stage the features that makes Italy famous worldwide: quality, love for "beauty", taste and, last but not least, imagination.

It is the imagined reality that makes us feel happier.

Arturo Brachetti

THE 1980s AND 1990s

It would be really too long to go over Brachetti's artistic career from the 1980s: a unique mixture of international debuts, collaborations, theatre success, musicals, occasional forays into television, plays, sit-com ... ranging from great vaudeville acts, such as ***Al Paradise*** by **Antonello Falqui and Michele Guardì** in Italy to ***Fantassissimo*** at the Wintergarden in Berlin; from playing Puck in ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** to **Hollywood Disney** and **Warner Bros** productions; from his collaboration with the great drama masters **Giorgio Gaber** and **Ugo Tognazzi** to his friendship (on the stage and off stage) with **Massimo Ranieri** and the three comedians **Aldo, Giovanni & Giacomo**.

THE NEAR PAST

His shows

The Man with a Thousand Faces Canada, France, USA, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, 1999-2008

Gran varietà Brachetti Italy, 2008/2009

Change London, 2009

Brachetti and friends Italy, 2010

Ciak si gira! Italy, France, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Canada, 2010/2011

Comedy Majik Cho Canada and France, 2013

Brachetti che sorpresa! Italy, 2014/2016

SOLO, France, Switzerland, Italy, 2017

Television

Pierino e il lupo Italy, 2010, Rai3 and Rai 5

Allegro, un po' troppo Italy, 2013, Rai3 and Rai5

The Best France, 2013/2014, prime time TF1

Awards and recognitions across the world

1995 **Biglietto d'oro** (Italy) for *Fregoli*

2000 **Molière Award** (France) as Best Actor

2010 **Laurence Olivier Award** (UK) as Best Entertainment (he was also awarded in the 1990s for his show *Y*)

2011 He is bestowed with the title of **Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres** by the French Ministry of Culture

2013 He hit the headlines of **Le Monde** (September)

2013 The historical Wax Museum **Grévin** dedicates one statue to him in Paris and one in Montreal (December)

2014 The President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano, on his own initiative bestows the title of **Commendatore** on him.

Arturo's books (sorted in Italy)

Le ombre cinesi, Chinese Shadows, Ombres chinoises 2005, Priuli&Verluccha

Uno, Arturo, centomila, 2007, Rizzoli

Tanto per cambiare, 2015, Baldini&Castoldi

HIS COLLABORATIONS

Aldo Giovanni & Giacomo *comic trio*

A special and historical relationship with the comic trio that Arturo has directed on the stage since their debut (*I Corti, Tel chi el telùn, Anplagghed* and *Ammutta Muddica*). They say they want only Arturo because nothing – not even the craziest gags – is impossible to be made on the stage. This collaboration spills over to personal friendship, so much so that Arturo has played a cameo in the TV transpositions of their shows.

Angelo Branduardi *singer songwriter*

With the renowned Italian singer he has brought over to the stage *L'infinitamente piccolo*, the musical version of Saint Francis' Canticle of the Sun that he has directed.

Raul Cremona *comic magician*

Arturo has directed *Meta fisico, metà fa schifo* for him.

THE BRACHETTI ART PERFORMERS

They are the artists who share Arturo's performing style and ideas, so that they have developed a special form of artistic collaboration with him.

Luca Bono

A young talented conjuror who has won, at the age of 17, the Italian Championship of magic, the Mandrake d'or, which is considered as the Oscar award of conjuring for the most promising talented young magicians internationally.

Luca&Tino

The bizarre Italian comedian pair formed of Luca Regina and Tino Fimiani follow the tradition of the Italian comedy, the silent clown school and the circus world. They are inspired by silent clowns such as Jacques Tati, Mr Bean and Jango Edwards. The prestigious French newspaper Le Figaro has enthusiastically defined them the "Italian Laurel e Hardy".

ARTURO IN 10 NUMBERS

1957	year of birth
1978	debut in Paris at the Paradis Latin
14	years of age when he discovers magic through a priest, Don Silvio Mantelli
188	centimetres is the height of his "tuft" of hair
2,500,000	spectators of his one man show
400	costumes, collected in his own closet
100	character changes in one single show
2	seconds (less than) to quick change
5	performing languages, 3 of which he speaks fluently
3	siblings, who have been supporting Arturo since his debut; plus 5 nephews and nieces

19 THINGS ABOUT ARTURO THAT YOU (MAY) NOT KNOW

1. He is the main character in two of **Donald Duck pocket-books** (issue no. 2759 and 3091): his character's name is SuperBrack.
2. His instant costume changes are so quick that have been introduced in the **Guinness World Records**: less than 2 seconds per change. But he has also set a record as the most active quick change performer with over 250,000 changes so far in his career.
3. The American bestseller writer **Jeaffrey Deaver** mentions Arturo in his book *The vanished man*.
4. He is part of the **Inner Magic Circle**, a limited club including only the 300 most important conjuros of all times, both living or not.
5. He doesn't ward off ill-luck (at least so far) and he wears **purple** on the stage.
6. He was kidnapped by **Cattivik** in the comic book *L'apparenza ammazza*.
7. He has a **magic house** with disappearing walls, non-existing doors, things that aren't what they look and secret passages.
8. As a young man he worked as a **concierge** at the hotel Victoria in the centre of Turin.
9. In 2010 he "graduated" in **Arneis** and participated in the **Barolo** auction in 2012 but... he doesn't drink wine!
10. He has been awarded the **Mandrake d'or alla carriera**, the equivalent of the conjurors Oscar.
11. He knows how to cook the **agnolotti**: he prepared the dish in Canada live on tv (after a quick telephone consultation with his mother).
12. He draws well and has received a **honorary degree in Beaux Arts**, a study career he quit to go to Paris for the casting at the Paradis Latin.
13. He has won the **Tartufo d'oro** as an ambassador of the precious tuber in the world.
14. He has three **wax statues** in Paris, in Montreal and in Suisse at Charlie Chaplin's world museum. All change their costume every 30 seconds, that is over 1,000 times every day: his statues have beaten his own record!
15. He has cut a **record**: the *Amami Arturo* soundtrack. But, by his own admission, he is really off key.
16. In his house in Turin he has a **videocamera** aiming at the Mole on his balcony. Whenever he is abroad and misses Italy, he gets connected and watches the city panorama.
17. He has pinched **Jean-Paul Belmondo's** wig (the latter forgot it in the dressing room. One couldn't just leave it there... who knows where it would have gone!)
18. His favourite directors are **Tim Burton** and **Federico Fellini**; his beloved actor is **Charlie Chaplin**; the painter he loves the most is **Magritte**.

19. To keep in shape he **exercises** at 2 am in front of the mirror, so that he can see his "rolls of fat" (verbatim) .

HOW TO FOLLOW ARTURO

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