



ARTURO BRACHETTI

THE LEGEND OF QUICK-CHANGE



PRESS KIT

Arturo Brachetti is a worldwide famous and hailed Italian performer considered **the Legend of quick change**. In many countries he is considered as a living myth in the acting world and the visual performing art.

A profound connoisseur of international theater and entertainment, for years he has combined his role as an artist with that of a **showteller**, which means a theatrical communicator aiming to disseminate knowledge about theater in a simple and engaging manner.

He is also a 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 was 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 the many awards he has received throughout his career are the **Molière Award** (France) and the **Laurence Olivier Award** (UK). In 2011, he was made a **Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres** by the French Ministry of Culture. In

2014, he was awarded the title of **Commendatore** by President Giorgio Napolitano, through a nomination *motu proprio*. In 2023, he was appointed as an **Ambassador of Torino’s local excellence to the world** by the City of Torino.

Throughout his career “the most popular tuft of Italy” has been an all-rounder in the entertaining world. 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.

In the 2023/24 season, he debuts in the musical **Cabaret**, which he directs alongside Luciano Cannito. Brachetti also stars in the central role of the Emcee. In this emotional and highly relevant musical, he performs as an actor, dancer, and singer.

Additionally, Brachetti continues the international tour of his **one-man show SOLO - The Legend of Quick-Change**, in high demand. This show is a true solo performance by the great artist, showcasing one of the most acclaimed productions of recent seasons and setting records for sold-out shows across Italy and Europe.

The 2024/25 season will see him back in Cabaret (starting in November) and SOLO (from March).

Arturo Brachetti is an international figure who is often traveling 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

PAST AND PRESENT

BRACHETTI IN NUMBERS

- 1957** year of birth
- 1979** debut in Paris at the Paradis Latin
- 14** years of age when he discovers magic through a priest, Don Silvio Mantelli
- 40** years since the French debut, reached in 2019.
- 188** centimeters in height up to the tuft.
- 4.500.000** spectators of his one man show.
- 400** costumes, collected in his own closet.
- 100** character changes in one single show
- 2** (less than) seconds 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, and the mom of course.

THE 80'S AND 90'S

It would be really too long to go over Brachetti's artistic career from the 1980s: a mixture of international debuts, collaborations, theater 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 with *Massimo Ranieri* and the three comedians *Aldo, Giovanni & Giacomo*.

AWARDS ACROSS THE WORLD

- 1995** Biglietto d'oro (Italy) for *Fregoli*
- 2000** Molière Award (France) as Best Actor
- 2002** Enters the Guinness World Records as the fastest quick-change actor in the world. His record remains unbeaten to this day
- 2010** Laurence Olivier Award (UK) as Best Entertainment (he was also awarded in the 1990s for his show Y)
- 2011** Appointed Chevalier des Arts et des Letters by the French Minister of Culture
- 2013** He hit the headlines of *Le Monde*
- 2013** The historical Wax Museum Grévin dedicates one statue to him in Paris and one in Montreal. Two other statues are located in the museum in Prague and in the house-museum of Charlie Chaplin in Switzerland
- 2014** He receives the Mandrake d'Or for his career, the Oscar award among illusionists
- 2014** The President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano, on his own initiative bestows the title of **Commendatore** on him
- 2017** He receives the **Charlot Award** from the hands of Eugene Chaplin
- 2019** The Magic Circle di Londra awarded him the **David Devant Award** for Services to International Magic, given to the greatest living illusionists
- 2023** Ambassador of Torino's local excellence to the world, appointed by the City of Torino

PROJECTS

HIS SHOWS

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

Gran Varietà Brachetti 2008-2009
Italy.

Change 2009
London.

Brachetti and friends 2010
Italy.

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

Comedy Majik Cho 2013-2015
Canada and France.

Brachetti che sorpresa! 2014-2016
Italy.

SOLO 2017-2024
Italy, France, Switzerland, Belgium, UK.

Cabaret 2023- 2025
The international tour restarts.

SOLO marzo 2025
Eighth Season

THE BOOKS OF
ARTURO

Le ombre cinesi 2005
Chinese Shadows
Priuli&Verluccha

Uno, Arturo, centomila 2007
Rizzoli

Tanto per cambiare 2015
Baldini&Castoldi

SHOWTELLER
AND DISCLOSURE

Pierino e il lupo 2011
Concert with the National
Symphony Orchestra of RAI, Italy.

Allegro, un po' troppo 2013
Concert with the National
Symphony Orchestra of RAI, Italy.

Pierino, il lupo e l'altro 2021
Concert, Italy.

*Come diventare stage
performer* 2021
Digital course for Competenze.it, Italy

Et voilà 2022
Podcast

Poltrona spiona 2022
Youtube Series

Arturo racconta Brachetti 2017-2024
Talk, Italia.

TELEVISION

Al Paradise 1984
Rai 1 (ITA)

The best of magic 1989-1990
Thames tv (GB)

*A night of magic from
Disneyland Paris* 1992
(EU)

Pierino e il lupo 2010
Rai 3 and Rai 5 (ITA)

Allegro, un po' troppo 2013
Rai 3 and Rai 5 (ITA)

The Best 2013-2014
TF1 prime time (FR)

COLLABORATIONS

ALDO GIOVANNI E GIACOMO

A historical relationship exists with the comedy trio, of which Arturo has always been the theatrical director (in productions such as 'I Corti,' 'Tel chi el telùn,' 'Anplagghed,' 'Ammutta Muddica,' and 'The Best of,' created for the trio's 25-year career anniversary). They say they only want Arturo because, for him, nothing is impossible to achieve on stage, even the craziest gags. This collaboration extends into personal friendship, to the extent that Arturo makes guest appearances in some cameo roles in the televised adaptations of their shows.

ANGELO BRANDUARDI

Together with the renowned minstrel, he creates 'L'infinitamente piccolo,' a musical version of Saint Francis's Canticle of the Creatures, of which Arturo oversees the direction.

RAUL CREMONA

For him, Arturo directed "Meta fisico, metà fa schifo."

RAPHAEL GUALAZZI

Brachetti is the performer in the music video of his friend Raphael Gualazzi's "Lotta Things," where Arturo embodies the frenzy of modern man and his challenge against time. The video was released in November 2016.

MATTHIAS MARTELLI E ROY PACI

Arturo Brachetti directs FRED!, a show dedicated to Fred Buscaglione, featuring Matthias Martelli and music by Roy Paci.

CURIOSITY

21 THINGS OF ARTURO THAT (MAYBE) YOU DON'T KNOW

- 1 Arturo Brachetti is a **showteller**, with a rich collection of anecdotes and stories from the world of entertainment, which he gathers firsthand in theaters by speaking with artists and stage technicians.
- 2 He is the protagonist of two stories in **Mickey Mouse** Comic Book (issue no. 2759 and no. 3091): his character, Arthur Bracchetto, transforms into SuperBrack. Additionally, he was robbed by **Cattivik** in the story "L'apparenza ammazza."
- 3 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.
- 4 The American bestseller writer **Jeaffrey Deaver** mentions Arturo in his book "The vanished man".
- 5 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.
- 6 He doesn't ward off ill-luck (at least so far) and he wears **purple** on the stage.
- 7 He personally takes care of **all the details of the staging**, paying special attention to the lighting, which he refines in collaboration with his long-time Canadian technician, Flesh.
- 8 He has a **magic house** with disappearing walls, non-existing doors, things that aren't what they look and secret passages.
- 9 As a young man, he worked as a **conciierge** at the Victoria hotel in the center of Turin. He worked at night and studied during the day, in order to pay for his first costumes.

- 10 In 2010, he became a “graduate” in **Arneis** and won the **Barolo** auction in 2012, but... he doesn't drink wine!
- 11 One of his distinctive traits is **curiosity**. This curiosity has led to some of his collections, such as his collection of hats, some of which were originally parts of theatrical costumes.
- 12 He follows a **strict dietary regime**, almost akin to that of athletes. The only indulgence: chocolate. His favorite dessert is Pavlova cake, but he only allows himself a spoonful occasionally.
- 13 He is a very talented artist and received an **honorary degree in Fine Arts** from the Albertina Academy in Turin, a course of study he abandoned to move to Paris and audition
- 14 He was awarded the **Golden Truffle** as an ambassador of the precious tuber in the world.
- 15 He has three **wax statues** in Paris, in Prague 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!
- 16 He recorded an album: the soundtrack of “Amami Arturo,” which is now considered rare and sought after by collectors. In 2016, he sang together with Federico Sirianni in “Mia mamma sta su Facebook.” However, he admits he really can't sing.
- 17 In his house in Turin he has a **camera** aiming at the Mole on his balcony. Whenever he is abroad and misses Italy, he gets connected and watches the city panorama.
- 18 His **tuft** is an inheritance from his portrayal of “Puck” in “Sogno d'una notte di mezza estate” in the early '90s, directed by Duccio Camerini.
- 19 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!)
- 20 His favourite directors are **Tim Burton** and **Federico Fellini**; his beloved actor is **Charlie Chaplin**; the painter he loves the most is Magritte.

- 21 He also transforms in his everyday life, adopting a more fitting look to go unnoticed. However, when he goes around dressed as a priest... all sorts of things happen!
- 22 To keep in shape he **exercises** at 2 am in front of the mirror, so that he can see his “rolls of fat”(verbatim) .



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