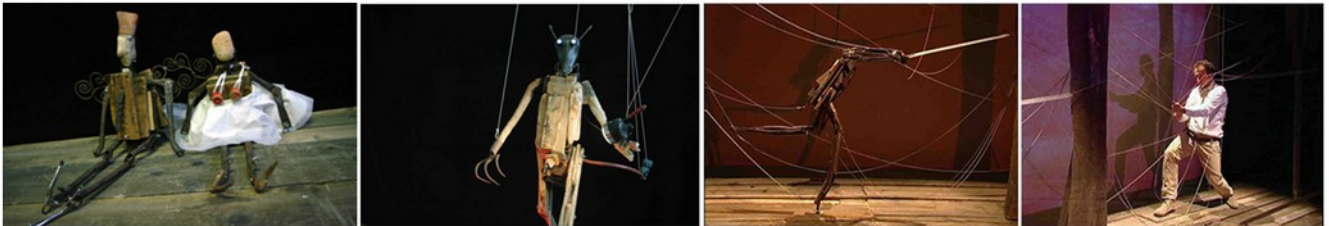


ANTONIO PANZUTO

An atypical figure in the Italian theatre outline, **Antonio Panzuto** is a gentle demiurge, a scene artist escaping from labels with a smiling discretion.

His **theatrical machines** are inhabited by objects and characters moved by an entanglement of wires. By mixing wood and metal, ropes and cloth, the artist gives birth to visions that follow the secret dictates of a pictorial dramaturgy that proceeds by affinities and correspondences rather than by logical or narrative connexions.



Antonio Panzuto is a **painter, set designer and sculptor**.

He is the author of very original theatrical performances using objects, cars and sculptures he creates from waste materials rejected from the nomenclature of beauty that thus recover dignity by inhabiting emotional and abstract places, fields of very strong passion, defined by a particular use of colour. In his scenes, a painting transforms the stage into a place of light and movement. The two dimensions open in depth and plasticity.

Antonio Panzuto thinks of **theatre as a collective work of art**, in which each element of the stage contributes to the theatrical draft, thus forcing the director to give equal weight to all the different languages and offering the spectator a richness of interpretative levels where *to see* is also *to feel*.

His research has been very much influenced, on the one hand, by the kinetic arts dealing with the subject of movement as being one of the deepest artistic problems in the last fifty years, and, on the other hand, by some American artistic currents of the Sixties, particularly Pop Art, where working with everyday objects achieves a strong symbolic value.



In Antonio Panzuto's work, the rigid laws of mechanics are turned upside down, enabling the artist to enter with lightness into new mental orders in which "the machine" withdraws from its functional logic and retracts as an object and as a sign upturning its shape and function.

They are sculptures, assemblage paintings and "combine paintings", made of engines or waste objects, soldered pieces of iron glued together, apparently drawn near by chance, nailed to old planks and painted with wide and variable strokes.

ANTONIO PANZUTO took part in several International Festivals such as:

- 1992: **Town Map** at **Royal National London Theatre** and **Tricycle Theatre**
- 2002: **Centro Culturale di Belem (Lisbona)** invited **Notizie Straordinarie da un Altro Pianeta**
- 2004: **Arabian Nights** at **Strasbourg International Festival**
- 2004: **Special Award** at **Beograd International Poppentheater Festival (Notizie Straordinarie da un Altro Pianeta)**
- 2010: **Town Map** and **An Opera Fridge** at **25° International Poppentheaterfestival Dordrecht**
- 2011: **An Opera Fridge** at **Festival Internazionale Teatro di Figura "Incanti", Turin**
- 2012: **An Opera Fridge** at **Festival Internazionale di Andria (Bari)**
- 2012: **An Opera Fridge** and **Odyssey** at **Segni d'Infanzia, Festival Internazionale d'arte e teatro per l'infanzia, Mantua**
- 2015: **Who are you? The Gospel of the Patient Donkey** at **Theatre of the Sacred, Lucca**
- 2016: **The Opera Fridge** at **International Theatre Festival for Children "100, 1000, 1000000 Stories", Bucarest**
International Theatre Festival for Young Audience, Iasi
Internationale Puppentheatertage, Mistelbach
- 2017: **Who are you? The Gospel of the Patient Donkey** at **Biblical Festival, Padua**

Best 2016 Italian set-designer for "*The Desert of the Tartars*"

One of his projects is the installation ***The Thin City - Architectonic Utopia designed by children***. Inspired by Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities*, it's a thought on the modern city and the "imagined," "possible," "utopic," "designed" and "ideal" cities, realized through the work of primary school children.

The installation aims to be itinerant and is open to changes and additions as a result of workshops held with the children.

His latest puppetry show ***Who are you? The Gospel of the Patient Donkey*** is inspired by Gospels, with a wooden sculpture of a donkey following Jesus in his walking journey of predication.



"...a rarefied composition, both popular and extremely intellectual and refined"

as Italian journalist
Renato Palazzi wrote
on *Il Sole 24 ore*
Newspaper

For more information on Antonio Panzuto and a fuller account of his works of sculpture, set design, painting, and theater for children, please visit www.antoniopanzuto.it

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