



## Luciano Castelli | Artist

[www.lucianocastelli.com](http://www.lucianocastelli.com)

1951

The artist is born in Lucerne, Switzerland.

1968–1969

Student of Max von Moos at Lucerne's School of Applied Arts

1969–1972

Apprenticeship in calligraphic design

1972

Takes part in Documenta 5, Kassel.

1974

Takes part in the famous *Transformer – Aspekte der Travestie* exhibition by Jean-Christophe Ammann at the Kunstmuseum Lucerne, Switzerland.

Spends several months in the USA (Hollywood).

Visits Pierre Molinier in Bordeaux where they create a joint photographic work.

1976

Produces photographic illustrations for William S. Burroughs' *Alice's Smile*.

1977–1978

Stay in Rome

1978–1989

Leaves Lucerne for Berlin and there joins a group of innovative young painters, who will later be called the Neue Wilde ('new Fauves').

Befriends Salomé and Rainer Fetting and together with them creates works that reflect their deep bonds of friendship.

1979

With Salomé launches the punk rock band *Geile Tiere* ('horny beasts').

1981

Together with Salomé performs *The Bitch and Her Dog* at the Third International Symposium of Performance Art in Lyon.

Working with Salomé paints *KaDeWe*.

Gives several concerts with Salomé and the *Geile Tiere*, specifically at the Palace Paris, SO 36 Berlin, Dschungel Club Berlin, Exzess Berlin and Quartier Latin.

1982

Shoots the film *Rooms Full of Mirrors* with Rainer Fetting on Lanzarote in the Canary Islands.

# K B H.G

1982

Paints still more joint paintings with Rainer Fetting.

Paints joint paintings with Salomé, too.

1983

Concert performances of *Opéra par Hasard* (Salomé, Fetting, Castelli) at the Centre Pompidou and Théâtre Le Palace in Paris and the CAPC, Bordeaux

1984

A stay in Venice inspires the film *Venice by Night* made in collaboration with Knut Hoffmeister.

1985–1986

Visits the Philippines and there takes part in a group exhibition alongside Filipino artists in Manila.

1986

Takes part in the *Ex Change* group show with Filipino artists in Berlin.

Musical project for which he records Kurt Weil's "Mackie Messer" ("Mack the Knife") with Kiddy Citny.

1986–1991

Works in a studio in Montepulciano, Tuscany.

1989

Settles in Paris.

1991

Marries Alexandra.

1993

Invents the 'Revolving Paintings'.

1994–2000

Creates the *Palio in Siena* cycle of paintings, sculptures, canvases and drawings.

1995–2004

Begins major series of 'City Paintings'.

1995–1999

Intensive photographic work with a camera obscura that he designed and built himself

1996

Birth of son Leandro

1998

Creates glass sculptures in Murano, Venice.

1999

Birth of daughter Anjuli

2001

Sculpts and casts large bronzes in Tuscany (*Rückwärtssalto*, *Grosse Holder Skulptur*, etc.).

2003

More 'City Paintings'

2009

Moves to Zurich.

2009–2015

Works in Zurich, Paris and Normandy.

2014

Works with his photographic files.

Solo exhibition at La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris

2015

Sino-Swiss Cultural Exchange, Beijing, and exhibition with Tan Ping at the National Art Museum of China, Beijing

Visiting Professor, Tianjin, Academy of Fine Arts

2016

Sino-Swiss Cultural Exchange, Shanghai, and exhibition with Tan Ping at the SPSI Art Museum, Shanghai

2017

From White to White, a Luciano Castelli Production and multi-media event at Kaufhaus Jandorf, Berlin

# KBH.G

2018

Works on museum shows.

2019

*Kiss My Genders* at the Hayward Gallery,  
London

2020–2021

Franz Gertsch Museum, Burgdorf, Switzerland  
Lentos Museum, Linz, Austria

Franz Gertsch *Die Siebziger* (The Seventies)  
Luciano Castelli Reckenbühl

2021

Project with Leica Camera in Wetzlar, Germany

*Der goldene Esel / Apuleius*, a 30-meter-long  
film project

2023

Experiments with NFTs (non-fungible tokens).

2024–2025

Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G, Basel  
*WHISPERS OF JAPAN – Luciano Castelli*