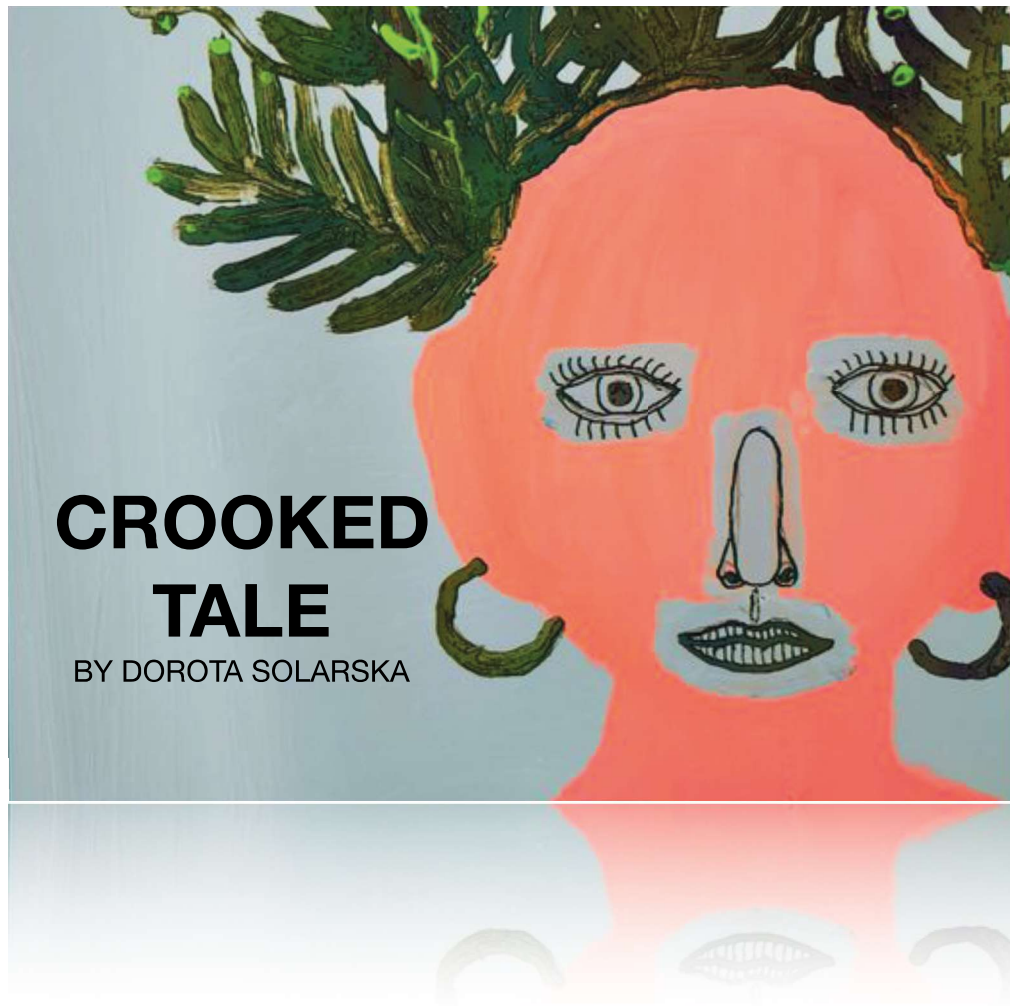


the **CARETAKERS**

PRESENT



CROOKED TALE

BY DOROTA SOLARSKA

The Caretakers

The Caretakers is an English-language theatre group or association, which was founded in 2010 in Bern. We foster all aspects of amateur theatre and are always open to new ideas!

What has made the theatre group so exceptional over the years has been the ability of all the people taking part in our productions, the actors, directors, stage managers, the costumers, the set builders, the props directors, the make-up artists, sound and lighting crews. Every single person involved in a production works closely together in an ensemble.

Furthermore, most of our productions are home-grown. Most of our plays are written by our in-house authors and we have even been cheeky enough to update Shakespeare, Dickens, and Snow White.

We are an open group, and anyone can come to our auditions – or even propose an entirely new production! Sign up to our newsletter to stay informed about opportunities or contact the committee if you have questions or ideas!

Head to our website to learn more: <https://www.thecaretakers.ch/>

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Many thanks for your love and support!

A Crooked Tale

After a violent attack of bipolar illness, Sara Gemini is sent to a psychiatric clinic. Although the clinic is supposed to be a safe place, Sara soon learns it is not – unless she makes it safe for her own sake. She learns to live with her condition, maintain respect for herself and to balance between shame, guilt and grief. The play touches on topics that are as explosive as they are important: How do we deal with illness? How does society view mental problems? From the point of view of a bipolar person, Dorota Solarska tells a sensitive story that is intended to touch the audience and make them think. The artist's first full-length play is a delicate, devastating, but also hopeful story about humanity, illness and our society.

Content warning: This play deals with heavy emotional themes including discussions of mental illness, psychiatric treatment, violent behavior and suicide. Viewer discretion is advised.

Playwright



Dorota Solarska - a writer and a painter of Polish origin. Crooked Tale is her second play on stage with The Caretakers. Her third book was published in Poland earlier this year; she also writes poetry, articles, songs and a blog. Her paintings and drawings have been exhibited in Switzerland and in Poland. She cooperates with a Canadian journal „Poiesis” as a writer and illustrator, with the Polish journal „Silne” as a writer and illustrator, and the Swiss journal „Kuckucksnest” as an illustrator.

She holds a Master degree in psychology and journalism, plus a diploma of post-graduate studies in Expressive Arts.

She suffers from a schizoaffective illness and borderline personality disorder. Crooked Tale is her attempt to cope with the moment in her life when „it all turned upside down” .

Privately, she is the wife of a Big Polish Guy and a surrogate mother to a chihuahua called Stefan.

Directors



Chris Huguenin always enjoyed theatre at school and was able to pursue his passion during his time as an English student at the University of Bern. He diligently attended drama workshops and played Shakespearean beaus and pantomime ladies in student productions. He was involved with the Caretakers from the beginning and makes his debut as a director with this play. He grew up as the eldest of three brothers in a Welsh-English family in Neuchâtel and Thun.

Matea Todorovski lives and studies in Bern. Raised in Lucerne, her passion for language and literature led her to the University of Bern, where she now studies English Literature. "A Crooked Tale" is the first project she has directed.

Cast

Sara Gemini Hulda Rún Jónsdóttir
 Eric Gemini Martin Ritzmann
 Constance Ayscha Roumen
 Rosie Aicha Brini
 Dr. Oberthaler, Patient 1 Anna Madziba
 Dr. Wolfer, Patient 2 Xenia Rivkin
 Patient 4 Anita Adaszewska
 Nurse 1 and Mother Susan Higson
 Heidi Decker Anina Bächtold
 Patient 3 Vrushali Keedar Godse
 Nurse 2 Emily Kontu

Actors



Hulda Rún Jónsdóttir



Martin Ritzmann



Ayscha Roumen



Aicha Brini



Anna Madziba



Xenia Rivkin

Actors



Anita Adaszewska



Susan Higson



Anina Bächtold



Vrushali Keedar Godse



Emily Kontu

Crew

ProductionAngela Alzina and Alexander P. Sigrist
Set DesignWalo Hunziker
CostumesEmily Kontu
PropsRoberto Scaramuzza
Lighting Design..... Grace Bramer
Assistant Lighting DesignMax Protzen
Sound Design.....Max Protzen

Songs

Money.....Pink Floyd
The Christmas Song.....Nat King Cole
Santa Clause Is Coming to Town Frank Sinatra
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas Frank Sinatra
Let It Snow, Let It Snow!..... Frank Sinatra
It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year..... Andy Williams