

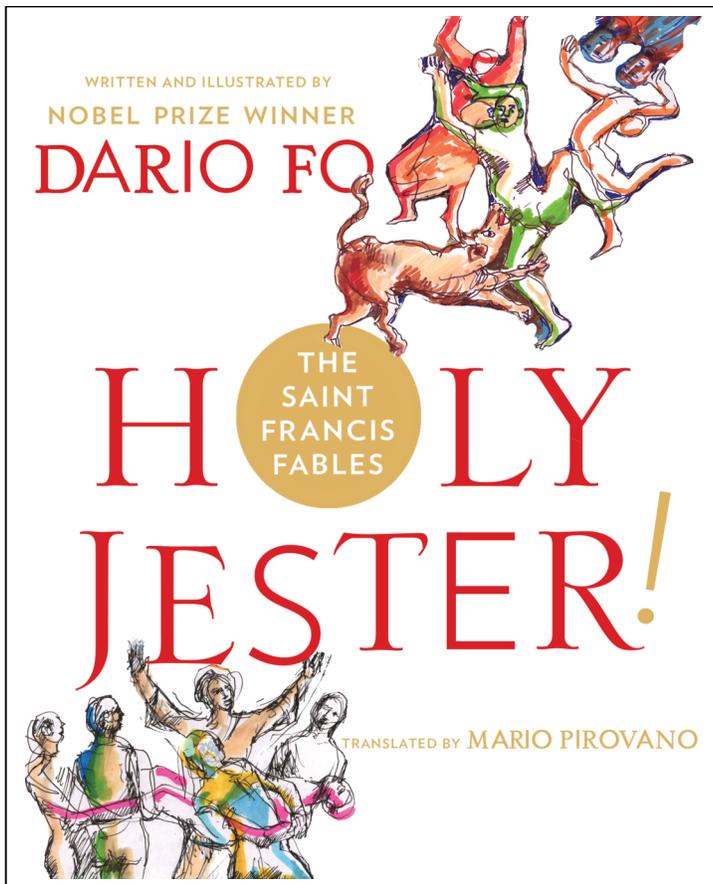
To be published December 1 –

HOLY JESTER! THE SAINT FRANCIS FABLES by Nobel Prize Winner **DARIO FO**

“Dario Fo emulates the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden.” – *Nobel Prize Committee*

“Imagine a cross between Bertolt Brecht and Lenny Bruce, and you may begin to have an idea of the scope of Fo's anarchic wit.” – *The New York Times*

ILLUSTRATED IN FULL COLOR BY DARIO FO



Greed and corruption are Nobel Prize Winner **DARIO FO**'s subjects in this Fellini-esque provocation on the life of Saint Francis in **HOLY JESTER! THE SAINT FRANCIS FABLES**, to be published by Opus on December 1st. (*Translated by Mario Pirovano; 160 pages; Hardcover; \$38.95; Full-color illustrations throughout; ISBN: 978-1-62316-082-1*)

Fo convenes courtiers, generals, popes, cardinals, generals, peasants, and one man who despite his own earthly appetites and desires becomes a saint.

“‘Jester’ was not a moniker applied affectionately by historians or theologians,

or sarcastically by his critics,” Fo writes in the Introduction. “The great historian Chiara Frugoni has revealed that Francis, in fact, adopted this appellation for himself! ‘I am God’s jester!’ Francis declares not by way of apology but with pride and gusto.”

Drawn from the fragments and threads of contemporary chronicles that bring alive dramatic scenes and episodes of the world of Saint Francis, Fo's **HOLY JESTER!** is a richly-crafted tapestry of fables that spark the imagination, challenge the conscience, and delight the soul.

###

Novelist, dramatist, commedia clown, and artist, DARIO FO often drew on medieval and Biblical sources to shape his work. His other illustrated fiction includes *The Pope's Daughter* (Random House) and *There is a Mad King in Denmark*. The Nobel Prize winner has been celebrated worldwide for his plays *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Mistero Buffo*. The works of this Italian master are published in over 50 countries in more than 30 languages. His paintings and drawings have been exhibited internationally. Dario Fo died on October 13, 2016 in Milan at the age of 90.

MARIO PIROVANO (translator): "Pirovano is a self-taught actor of great expressive quality. I found him exceptional. He showed a vitality that was all his own, and the energetic inventiveness of a great storyteller." – Dario Fo.

HOLY JESTER! The Saint Francis Fables
Written and illustrated by Nobel Prize Winner
DARIO FO

Translated by MARIO PIROVANO

PUBLICATION DATE: December 1, 2017

OPUS • Hardcover • \$38.95

160 pages • Four color throughout on fine quality lithographic stock

ISBN: 978-162316-082-1 • Fiction / Literary / Christian

E-BOOK Editions Available