

**Franz Hohler** (1943) is the virtuosic elder of Switzerland's poetic cabaret. The committed jester and sensitive juggler of language has been demonstrating the absurdity of normalcy since 1965 in his constantly surprising cabaret suites. In stories and songs, as a "free conjurer and a specialist in cello-subculture" (in his own words), this narrator of apocalyptic fairy tales trusts in the enlightening power of the comic and uses his imagination to transform basement theaters into worlds of fantasy. His films, plays, radio plays and books—for adults as well as children—reveal the skeptical dreamer to be a critical thinker with an eye for the terrors and madness of the modern world where, as he pithily demonstrates, "from one sentence to the next, everything can turn scary" (Karl Krolow).

Franz Hohler

"Language as expression of thought, language as a means to understanding and misunderstanding...Be it as a storyteller, airplane hijacker, statistician or a despairing self-diagnostician, he can make the most stubborn audience play along - and think along. You have to love mankind a lot to be able to teach them, in such an entertaining way, the dangers of their own thoughtlessness and speechlessness." (Michael Bauer)

