

A party with Death

Say Hello to the Geese

LOT VANDEKEYBUS & FREEK VIELEN

Brother is mad about birds. And he's ill. So ill that Sister is afraid he's going to die. Since he wants to know what happens if you die, Sister invents the Land of Yesterday, where today goes when tomorrow comes, where all wonderful memories are, and where you fly to, light as a feather, if Death comes to fetch you, along with the birds. Their dead dog Bobby is happy there too, so they decide to throw a party for the anniversary of his death. But an uninvited guest shows up: Death, whose birthday it is. Sister knows he'll take Brother with him when he leaves, so she tries to make the party last as long as possible.

Exceptionally candid, warm and sincere.*1/2**

CONCERT NEWS ON THE THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE

Despite the subject and the eventual death of Brother, 'Say Hello to the Geese' bathes in a warm and comforting atmosphere. Death is not a frightening character but more of a sorrowful clown, used to everything around him going wrong and falling apart. The comic relief this supplies, and the 'scuse' that awkward Death keeps mumbling, evoke great sympathy. In pastel oils and coloured pencils, Lot Vandekeybus surrounds Sister and Brother with colourful birds that contrast with the pale Death in his chequered jacket. Melancholy and poetic, funny and sad, 'Say Hello to the Geese' is a moving story about the inevitable.

One of the most beautiful children's theatre shows of the year

KNACK ON THE THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE



AUTHORS



Lot Vandekeybus (b. 1978) is a musician and illustrator. She plays brass with the literary-theatrical Dutch musical group De Kift. She has also developed into an illustrator. 'Say Hello to the Geese' is her second picture book. *Photo* © Filip Kotrly **Freek Vielen** (b. 1985) is a theatre maker and playwright. Along with Rebekka de Wit and Suzanne Grotenhuis he is joint artistic director of theatre company De Nwe Tijd. The pieces they have made together include the trilogy 'Heimat' and in 2012 he and co-authors Rebekka de Wit and Maarten Ketels won the Sabam Jong Theaterschrijfprijs for the text 'Stel je voor; ik zoek een staat' (Imagine, I'm seeking a state). Vielen's text 'Dracula' was awarded the Taalunie Toneelschrijfprijs in 2014. *Photo* © Alexander Daems

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