



WIT
AND
RESISTANCE



A bilingual German Kabarett show
Come see the **NAKED TRUTH!**

Tuesday, May 16th
7:00pm
Manor Lounge

Limited space available
Refreshments will be served



Im Cabaret zum hungrigen Pegasus.

Herrgottchen, es ist ja schön, dass
Sie gekommen, aber zu zahl-
reich, viel zu zahlreich. Denken Sie
doch an die Hitze und den Qualm.
Und dann: Was erwarten
Sie eigentlich von uns?
Wir können ja gar nichts.
Ne, Sie werden ja sehen.
Also, wenn Sie wollen.
Macht's jetzt an. Aber zu-
nächst mal Prost!



Introduction

What is this thing called Kabarett, this ever-changing mixture of social and political criticism, theatricality and literature? How did it begin, what was its function and how did it manage to establish itself as its own genre especially in Germany and other German-speaking countries?

This year's German Studies Theater Project focused on answering these and many more questions while working on a bilingual script that would present the history and significance of 100 years of German Kabarett and would make a dramatic performance accessible to a linguistically diverse audience.

Will and Resistance is the final product of this class. The play is based on original poems, songs, essays, newspaper articles, video footage, and audio recordings. It is a dramatic presentation of 100 years of German Cabaret, featuring poems, songs and music by Frank Wedekind, Bertolt Brecht, Kurt Tucholsky, Friedrich Hollaender, Hanns Eisler, and many more.

What you will see tonight is a true work of collaboration of hard-working, enthusiastic and creative German students, Bard graduates, colleagues and wonderful friends and musicians from near and far who volunteered their time, including guest author Matthias Göritz, bass player Andy Bicking, singer Mindy Jostyn, and pianist Joshua Pearl. I thank them ALL. Last but not least, I particularly want to thank our German assistant, Karina Kruse, for her tireless help, support and input into this demanding endeavor, for her good humor and for lending us her beautiful (and 'high-in-demand') voice.

Enjoy the show!

Stephanie Kufner

Songs and Poems

(for translations see the following pages)

- #1 **Willkommen**
Fred Ebb, John Kander, 1966
- #2 **Ilse**
Frank Wedekind, 1901
- #3 **Lumpenlied**
Erich Mühsam, 1903/1909
- ~~#4 **Legende vom toten Soldaten.**
~~Bertolt Brecht, 1921~~~~
- #5 **Der Graben**
Kurt Tucholsky, 1929
- #6 **Zusammenbruchsong**
Günter Neumann, Franz Grothe, 1918/1919
- #7 **Linker Marsch**
Wladimir Majakowski, Hanns Eisler, 1918
- #8 **Ja damals, im November 1919**
Kurt Tucholsky
- #9 **Ich bin ein Vamp!**
Marcellus Schiffer, 1932
- #10 **The Emancipation Collage**
Maskulinum-Femininum
Mischa Spollansky, 1926
Wenn die beste Freundin
Mischa Spollansky, 1928
Zieh dich aus, Petronella
Friedrich Hollaender, 1920
Raus mit den Männern aus dem Reichstag!
Friedrich Hollaender, 1926
- #11 **Münchhausen**
Friedrich Hollaender, 1931
- #12 **Das Lied vom Trockenbrot**
Walter Mehring, 1929
- #13 **Soldatlied**
Bertold Brecht, 1930
- #14 **Spuk in der Villa Stern**
Friedrich Hollaender, 1931
- #15 **Weltuntergang-Journalisten- Chanson**
Jura Soyfer, 1936
- #16 **What happened? Who's fault is it?**
Erich Mühsam, 1933
- #17 **Ach, sie haben ihre Sprache verloren**
Friedrich Hollaender, 1933
Mensch ohne Pass
Max Werner Lenz, 1936
- #18 **Ein Koffer spricht**
Ilse Weber, 1943/1944, Sergei Dreznin, 1993
- #19 **Die Hungernden**
Ilse Weber, 1934/1944, Bente Kahan, 1993
- #20 **Wo sollen wir denn anfangen?**
Wolfgang Borchert, 1945
- #21 **Tapfere kleine Soldatenfrau**
Wolfgang Borchert, 1945
- #22 **Wirtschaftswundersong**
Günter Neumann, 1958
- #23 **im Kabarett**
Rudolf Roles, 1968
- #24 **Schlafen Sie gut, Herr Tucholsky**
W. Schneyder, R. Erprato, 1992/1993
- #25 **Der Sucher**
Kurt Tucholsky, 1928
- #26 **Die Distel: Das haben wir nicht verdient,
Soldatlied des Geldes**
Dagmar Jaeger, Bernd Wefelmeyer, 1997

#2 lise

A girl sings about how much she has enjoyed sex ever since she lost her virginity at 14.

#3 Lumpenlied (The Poor Man's Song)

Three poor friends are sitting and watching the rich men go by. They sing about the fact that the rich have learning and money, while they have only schnapps and envy. The song ends with them declaring that if they became rich men and met their old buddies on the street, they would spit on them just like all the other rich men.

#4 Legende vom toten Soldaten (Legend of The Dead Soldier)

This song is about the first World War. Towards the end of the war Germany was running out of soldiers, and this song tells the story of a war hero who dies and is dug up again. The army spruces his corpse up with new clothes, a woman, and some alcohol and sends him out to the front to die again.

#5 Der Graben (The Trench)

The power of family is the subject of this song. The singer asks a mother why they bother to raise their children only to have them be taken away to die in the trenches. She asks them to think of all the men on the other side of the trenches, because they have mothers too. Don't you think, she asks, it would be better to shake hands over the trenches and end the bloodshed?

#6 Zusammenbruchsong (Collapse Song)

After the first World War, Germans were glad to be home again. This song speaks about the good "Stimmung" or mood, which had gripped the country, but warns that the after-war jubilation is much like the prewar mood again.

#7 Linker Marsch (Leftist March)

This is a leftist propaganda song, which calls the proletariat to forget the ways of the past and change the world for the better.

#8 Ja damals, im November 1919 (Back then, in November 1919)

This song is about the revolution in 1919 that attempted to set up the Weimar Republic. It failed, however, because the communists and socialists were split up amongst themselves. This song says that, yes, it failed, but next time it will be better because it is worth it.

#9 Ich bin ein Vampi (I am a Vampi)

This one is pretty self-explanatory. It's a woman singing about what a vamp she is.

#10 Emancipation Collage

This collage comes from several songs about the "Golden Twenties." In Germany, women were fighting for emancipation and gay rights. Still, there were some that continued to think that a woman's place in the theater was to take her clothes off.

#11 Münchhausen (Lies, Lies, Lies!)

Despite the fact the twenties were called the Golden Years, and everyone believed that things were really great, this song describes how things really were at the time. The Nazis were coming to power, poverty was prominent, and religious persecution was a problem. The lyrics say that all one hears about the wonderful state of Germany is lies, but everyone wants to believe.

#12 Das Lied vom Trockenbrot (The Dry Bread Song)

Unemployment was very high between the two world wars. This song is about the catch twenty-two between food and work. One needs food to work, but one needs to work in order to buy food. Life at the time was only waiting in lines, either the food line or the unemployment line.

#13 Solidaritätslied (Solidarity Song)

Push ahead, and, starving or not, remember solidarity!

#14 Spuk in der Villa Stern (Ghosts in Stern's Villa)

This is big Hitler coming, he snatches you unexpectedly and sacks you in.

#15 Weltuntergang (The End of the World)

A journalist is calling the major newspapers of the world, trying to warn them about the Nazis.

#17 Ach, sie haben Ihre Sprache verloren (Alas, They've Lost Their Language) Mensch ohne Pass (Person without a Passport)

You can see how our tears have blinded us, and you can see that we're strangers here. We've been thrown out of our world and they call us the emigrant pigs.

#18 Ein Koffer spricht (A Suitcase Speaks)

This is the voice of a suitcase at a concentration camp. It has been taken from its owner and wonders where the kind old man has gone. The suitcase is empty and discarded amongst the piles of others. It wonders how its owner, who is blind, will ever find it again.