

**Joachim Hachethal** (1924-2003) was the heavyweight of the West German cabaret scene, and not just in political terms. As founder, writer, actor, and director of the Amnestied (Die Amnestierten) in Cologne, he shaped their political-literary style, which was described as the “scream of a betrayed generation” (Kay Lorentz). The impetus and recurring theme of his carefully researched documentary satires was modern Germany’s still unvanquished fascist past. A sensitive polemicist, he also wrote for the Kom(m)ödchen in Cologne and the Munich Lach- und Schießgesellschaft. In the seventies, he found a new home with the Powerwatchers (Machtwächter) in Cologne, whose turn from variety programs to thematic evenings about marriage, health, and justice was one of the major innovations of the Brandt era.

*Joachim Hachethal*

“Biting aggressiveness and the courage to name the guilty parties. Cabaret as a tribunal, with merciless punch lines, crude but with linguistic perfection - the ‘fat guy’ can do it.” (Frankfurter Rundschau)

