

**Jürgen von Manger** (1923 - 1994) was the forefather of an entire generation of dialect performers and comedians from the Ruhr region. In his solo programs from 1963 to 1985, his character of "Adolf Tegtmeier" was a psychogram of the regional character type ("homo sapiens kohlenpottiensis"). His tragicomedies of everyday life reveal the mentality of the proverbial "man on the street" in finely tuned, literary monologues, while they transformed dialect into noble stage diction. Without denouncing them, Manger showed the petit bourgeois in all his helplessness, confronted by a bewildering world. In what seems to be mindless, friendly chatting, he unmasked the current situation with ironic menace.

*Jürgen v. Manger*

"What Karl Valentin was for Munich and "Herr Karl" is for Vienna, that's what Manger's home-made figure Adolf Tegtmeier is for the Ruhr area. The audience laughs loudly, though at times they are taken aback, because they are never quite sure if this is a popular comedian talking or someone who just thinks the populace is laughable. In any event, he is a unique and unusual satirist." (Berliner Morgenpost, 1972)

