

Karl Farkas (1893-1971) is the Socratic master of the Austrian cabaret. Following his appearances in Vienna's Hell (Die Hölle) and in the Femina, he joined the Simpl in 1921 and remained true to this stage to the end of his days as a writer, emcee, performer and director. Here, together with Fritz Grünbaum, Farkas developed and perfected the double emcee act, the satirical dialogue between the "smart guy and the dummy," alongside writing revues, scenes, and sketches. He emigrated in 1938 and went to the United States in 1941, where he was among the leading talents of the relocated Cabaret of the Comedians (Kabarett der Komiker) in New York. After his return from exile, this multitalent, whom Rudolf Weys called "the laughter of the century," was much in demand not just in the Simpl, where he discovered many talents including Fritz Muliar, but also for the cinema, radio, television, and theater.

Karl Farkas
"An Austrian institution, the last representative of a glorious era of cabaret. A linguistic tightrope-walker, a guarantor for finely honed puns and clever analyses of topical events. Brilliant commentaries on the times, delivered by a wise tortoise in a blazer." (Süddeutsche Zeitung)

