

Klabund (1890 - 1928) was a central figure of Munich's bohemian scene, which generated new literary impulses for the entertainment-driven cabaret. Following performances of his socially critical ballads in the Munich Simpl and in Zurich's Cabaret Voltaire, this expressionistic author (whose works include ten novels, various dramas, seventeen volumes of poems, and adaptations from the Chinese) became one of the literary forefathers of the cabaret during the Weimar Republic. His poems of Berlin street culture were set to music by Friedrich Hollaender and sung by Blandine Ebinger, Rosa Valetti, Trude Hesterberg, or Kate Kühl, but he also performed them himself with explosive power in Sound and Smoke (Schall und Rauch) or the Wild Stage (Wild Bühne). The effect was true to his motto: "God puked me out! Dawn! Klabund! Day draws nigh!"

Klabund

"The last free rhapsodist, the last of the ancient dynasty of vagabond poets... Poems of moonlight and dialectical wit; pathos, melancholy, and dirty jokes from the barroom. His ideas quickly transformed themselves into rhythms, words, and refrains. And above it all, there soared the charming libertinism of that name: Klabund." (Carl von Ossietzky, 1928)

