

**Martin Morlock** (1918 - 1983) was the skeptical poet among the lyricists who made their mark on the cabaret during the years of the “economic miracle.” He was discovered by Werner Finck and mentored by Erich Kästner. This model moralist set the standard for the programs of Dusseldorf’s Kom(m)ödchen and the Munich Lach- und Schießgesellschaft with his “little jewels polished to literary precision and cut to reveal their most malicious power” (Spiegel, 1983). Morlock was the first West German television critic and almost a national institution in his role of “Teleman” for the magazine Der Spiegel. As a topical columnist for various newspapers and a linguistically adept author for radio and television, his “formulations, thought processes, and polemical summaries with exact diagnoses” (Joachim Kaiser) were stunning.

*Martin Morlock*

“He left Olympus behind and instead sat down on the marketplace, in the seat of the scoffers.... Too bad Kerr and Polgar and Tucholsky are no longer alive. They would have loved Martin Morlock’s ‘Rules for Spoilsports.’” (Erich Kästner, 1967)

