

Günter Neumann (1913 - 1972) was the central figure of the Berlin cabaret immediately after the Second World War. His revues for the Cabaret Ulenspiegel, patterned after those of Friedrich Hollaender and Rudolf Nelson, dealt with the political realities of the divided city and contributed to the democratic re-education of the Germans. "A rare double talent and a brilliant satirist" (Friedrich Luft), the "voice of Berlin" began in Werner Finck's Catacombs (Die Katakombe) and Willi Schaeffers' Cabaret of the Comedians (Kabarett der Komiker), where he was discovered before 1933. He gained national popularity as the founder, composer, and author of the most popular mass media cabaret to date: the Islanders (Die Insulaner), first broadcast in 1948. In 150 shows, they performed cabaret on the front lines of the cold war and spoke from the heart of the citizens of West Berlin—and elsewhere.

Günter Neumann

"He made Berlin laugh about conditions that would otherwise have made us weep. He showed us and the world that a political song isn't necessarily a nasty song: it can be witty and charming, too." (Curt Flatow, 1971)

