

**Mischa Spoliansky** (1898 - 1985) was the sensitive musical aesthete and jazzman among the composers who created the cabaret of the early twentieth century with their songs and revues. He was less a satirist than an intellectual with a precise gift of observation. As a sparkling pianist, as well, "Moische Mozart" (as Roman Cykowski called him) embodied the sophisticated social parody that ironically mirrored the fashions and trends of the "Roaring Twenties." He was musical director of Sound and Smoke (Schall und Rauch), the Wild Stage (Wilde Bühne), and other Berlin cabarets, and in 1928 he had a breakthrough with his revue "It's in the Air" ("Es liegt in der Luft"). More stage productions followed, culminating in his unique cabaret opera "Call Mr. Plim!" ("Rufen Sie Herrn Plim!"). After his emigration to England, Spoliansky worked for films and broadcasting.

*Mischa Spoliansky*

"His unending, singing, giggling, mocking melodies were not just underscoring, but real composition. The music emphasized the punch lines of the text so effectively, turned the material into parody, enveloped the lyrics in magical wrappings, and drove the performers onward in merry relentlessness." (Kurt Pinthus)

