

**Klaus Staeck** (1938) is the foremost political graphic artist and satirical poster maker of the Federal Republic. Since the end of the 1960s, he has consistently managed to produce art as a political tool and to provoke those in power. He draws his inspiration from John Heartfield's montages and collages of images and texts, and from George Grosz' Berlin Dadaism. In posters, postcards, photos and installations, this committed enlightener and internationally recognized performance artist engages in virtuosic manipulation of fragments of reality and quotations from advertisements and everyday language. "A Wolfgang Neuss of optical techniques" (as Fritz J. Raddatz called him), the moral agitator has interceded with succinct persistence in the socio-political debates of the second German democracy. Staeck provides razor-sharp metaphors of the current condition of the Republic "with cunning clothed in the guise of the philistine" (Der Spiegel).

"Wherever he appears, wherever he gets involved, hope for change grows. Here utopia grows a bit more tangible, more concrete; it gets a more human face: the face of Klaus Staeck." (Wolfgang Thierse)

