

Trude Kolman (1904 - 1969) was Munich's first female producer-director, and a central figure in that city's cabaret and theater scene during the fifties and sixties. She co- founded and led the stage Little Freedom (Kleine Freiheit) which opened in 1951, and coaxed Erich Kästner and Friedrich Hollaender back to the cabaret, as well as discovering and promoting Martin Morlock and Helen Vita. Actually, this "witch of precision" (as Hanne Wieder called her) was continuing the work she had begun as the leader of Berlin's Tingel Tangel, where she became the director in 1935 until, shortly thereafter, it was closed by the Gestapo for its "unbridled Jewish impudence and vulgarity." Her mission was satire as a scathing critique of the world, theatrical cabaret as a philosophical institution. Moving to Vienna that same year, this revolutionary of the eleventh muse joined Curt Bry, whom she knew from their days in the Catacombs, and opened Sixth Heaven (Sechster Himmel), then emigrated to England in 1939 and made a living as a landlady.

Trude Kolman

"How often, and how marvelously, we quarreled, and over and over it was a success. Togo on without your electrifying personality will be a painful loss. Thank you!" (Friedrich Hollaender)

