

Ursula Herking (1912 - 1974) was the rubble-woman and the voice of the collapse following the Second World War. She was the personification of a Germany that was defeated but still not lost. "Uncompromising, volcanic, and with boundless optimism" (Dieter Hildebrandt), the resolute and tomboyish singer and hilarious actress embodied individual integrity and unimpeachable tolerance. Following her first cabaret experiences in Werner Finck's Catacombs (Die Katakombe), she triumphed after the war with songs by Erich Kästner in the Munich Show-Booth (Schaubude). Herking was one of the founders of the Little Freedom (Kleine Freiheit), before she played with the ensemble of the Munich Lach- und Schießgesellschaft in 1956, where she was the "mother of the company" (Sammy Drechsel). Film and theater roles followed, as well as solo programs from the early sixties on.

Ursula Herking

"A big city girl with knife-sharp power and a charm as cold as asphalt, who conjures up a positive nihilism between a gulf of despair and sarcastic joy of life. She has the power of extreme intensification. She can make the terrible and the darkest chasms visible." (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1946)

