

Peter Wehle (1914 - 1986), the bizarre and lovable jester of post-war Austrian cabaret, is a comedian of the keyboard with witty words. Holding degrees in law and German philology, this poet/composer/singer/pianist is one of the central figures of the modern, satirical Viennese cabaret that developed after 1945. After his beginnings as a pianist and emcee in the Casanova, he toured with the Little Four (Die kleinen Vier) and stood out in the ensemble of the Unnamed Cabaret (Kabarett ohne Namen). Soon he was presenting his musical and literary nonsense, rooted in irony and Jewish wit, in programs with Gerhard Bronner. Wehle was a well-educated joker and a polyglot Viennese native, and he was a leader in Austria's radio and television cabaret. On the side, he wrote over a thousand songs and pop hits.

“From early on, this son of a good family threw himself into the arms of a light-hearted and sometimes mean-spirited muse, and since he was determined never to let her go, she blessed him generously—with musical and verbal wit and with a talent for not taking things seriously, least of all himself.” (Ulrich Weinzierl)

