

THE GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

The Early Days: Hip-Hop Culture in the German Democratic Republic

A PHOTO EXHIBITION



EXHIBITION OPENING
THURS, SEPT. 4, 2014, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

EXHIBITION
SEPT. 4 - DEC. 4, 2014

GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE
1607 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON DC 20009

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As hip-hop spread around the globe in the early 1980s - and even behind the Iron Curtain - it excited the younger generation in the GDR. There the young hip-hop fans started breakdance crews, spray-painted graffiti, and met at parties where rappers and DJs could try out their rhymes and beats. Their new passion not only challenged the People's Police (*Volkspolizei*) and the *Stasi*, but also the socialist youth organizations, whose plans did not allow for youth subcultures.

The photographs in the exhibit, which stem almost exclusively from private collections, illustrate how youth in the GDR appropriated hip-hop culture, how they utilized it to invade public space, to organize their own peer-group communities, and to be part of the transatlantic hip-hop scene during the final decade of the GDR.

RSVP (ACCEPTANCES ONLY) BY AUG 29
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PROGRAM

6:00 PM RECEPTION

6:30 PM WELCOME AND BRIEF INTRODUCTION
Exhibition Curator Leonard Schmieding, Georgetown University / GHI

Generously sponsored by a bequest from Michael Olshausen to the Friends of the German Historical Institute

PHOTO CREDIT Leipzig B-Boy crew, Big City Breakers, performing at a youth festival in Dessau, 1988. Archive Nico Raschick/Here We Come.