

BGIRL BATTLES

Choreography/Dance	Pia Ringel
Choreography/Dance	Celia Bermúdez
Choreography	Ida Winter
Dance	Elodie Chhor aka B-Girl Elo
Choreographic Support	Arlette Dellers
Dramaturgy	Nora Steiner
Music	Iman Ibragić
Styling	Niara Sakho
Light Design	Samira Della Schiava
Head of Production	Arlette Dellers Sandy Albrecht
Dance Coaching	Venance Gwladys Amvame
Oeil Exterieur	Anna Chiedza Spörri
Production	FLUX crew
Co-Production	Gaskessel Bern

CONTENT INFORMATION

What is it like to be active in a male-dominated scene, as a person that is perceived as a woman? We address sexism and toxic masculinity. On stage we recreate and criticize the status quo of the breaking scene and suggest solutions on how to make it more feminist.

The play explicitly depicts gun violence and hierarchical, sexist violence.

DISCLAIMER

In this piece, we decided to focus on the topic of sexism. It is not possible to do justice to the intersectional complexity in a 1-hour piece. Although the play discusses the breaking scene, this debate is relevant to society as a whole. In the microcosm "Breaking" gender issues can be shown, which also play a central role in the macrocosm "society."

We have a lot of love for the local breaking scene and want to grow with it.

GLOSSARY

Breaking: A dance style of hip-hop culture, often falsely referred to as breakdance.

BGirl/BBoy: Dancer of the dance style Breaking. The term "breaker" or "BKid" can be used as a gender-neutral term.

Black: is a political self-description and does not describe the color of the skin, but refers to a global, constructed power structure.

LatinX: People with Latin American ethnicity.

Racism: Construction of groups of people as ancestry and origin communities to which collective characteristics are attributed. It evaluates and hierarchizes in favor of *white* people.

white: *white* is a political term and means that you are not affected by racism.

Patriarchy: Describes the structural hierarchy in favor of cis men and masculinity.

Sexism: devaluation, harming, discrimination or oppression of a person or group on the basis of sex.

Feminism: Fights against gender inequalities.

Privileges: Privileges are like an invisible backpack that people get and benefit from without their own intervention. Privileges can be: to be white, to be cis, to be abled and much more.

cis: Designates a person who identifies with the gender assigned at birth.

Homophobia: hostility to lesbians and gays.

Fatphobia: Structural discrimination against fat people. Fallacy: More weight = less attractiveness & less healthy = less value

Ableism: Structural discrimination and exclusion of people with disabilities and/or chronic diseases.

Intersectionality: Refers to the overlap of structural power relations and the interweaving of social inequalities.

Herstory: For centuries, men told and interpreted history, wrote HISTORY, were the measure and norm for science, jurisprudence and engineering. HERSTORY thinks: It's time to finally paint the whole picture.

BACKGROUND: HIPHOP

HipHop is a culture of Black and LatinX people and originates in the 1970s in the socially neglected neighborhoods of New York. HipHop is formed by the basic elements Breaking, Mcing, Writing and Djing as well as the values, which are summarized as Peace, Love, Unity and Having Fun. HipHop was created as a Safer Space to empower Black and LatinX people. However, sexist structures were still reproduced in the empowering, anti-racist expression of HipHop. HipHop has become known worldwide since its origin. Through globalization, however, HipHop also experiences a strong cultural exploitation due to the commercialization of the individual elements. Until today, the elements of HipHop are still strongly cis male dominated.

BACKGROUND: FEMINISM

Feminism is a political movement that fights against gender inequalities and, contrary to popular opinions, does not pursue the main goal of bringing women to power. The term feminism stems from the fact that in the first feminist wave, women demanded equal rights for women and dealt with power structures. A lot has happened since then and the deconstruction of the patriarchy must happen in an increasingly subtle way. What distinguishes today's feminism from older ones is probably the insight that overlapping power relations can be found everywhere in society and therefore it makes sense to think and fight intersectionally.

THE MANIFESTO

- 1. You shall not reduce me to my body and think you are entitled to comment on my appearance.**
- 2. You shall no longer sexualize women and use them as objects to prove your masculinity.** Wanting to conquer women is really last century.
- 3. Women shall not turn against each other or emulate man-made ideals.** Whose idea was it, for example, that a woman ALWAYS has to look beautiful and fuckable?
- 4. You shall take care of each other and show solidarity against the patriarchy.** Competition and the desire to please robs us of valuable energy and takes away our freedom.
- 5. You shall not organize BBoy events with BBoy Battles and then expect me to feel included.** If you really want to be inclusive and open then respond to the needs of those you want to have with you.
- 6. You shall not deny my reality and shouldn't push responsibility from you. You are part of the problem.** I would like you to listen to me when I address grievances. To take me seriously. And not to get away from my criticism with a laugh and a "chill". I don't want to hear homophobic, sexist, fat-phobic, racist or ableist jokes anymore - and no "chill, wasn't meant like that" when I call you out on it.
- 7. You shall stop calling yourself real if you hide your real self behind a facade.** I want real emotions instead of put on masks.

8. cis male codes and bars shall not apply to everyone by default. Who said that "cooler, faster, stronger" are our top maxims? I want various movement qualities to be appreciated. I want that slow doesn't equal boring and woman doesn't equal slow. And woman doesn't equal sexy. And sexy doesn't equal cheap.

9. I would like various movement qualities to be appreciated. I would like that slow does not equal boring and woman does not equal slow. And woman does not equal sexy. And sexy not cheap.

10. You shall not hide your unreflected masculinity behind a superficial feminism. Don't you realize how ridiculous it is to claim in the face of the everlasting dick comparison: "HipHop knows no genders"?

AND it's not my responsibility to explain the feminist 1x1 to you. Inform yourself. Google is your friend.

11. You shall not claim that HipHop isn't political. If you do, you do not understand the herstory.

12. You shall be conscious of your privileges. Don't tell me that we all have the same insecurities. Don't tell me that I just don't work hard enough. I want to be listened to instead of being ignored.

FURTHER INFORMATIONS

HipHop Files by Martha Cooper: The book documents the beginnings of HipHop.



God Save the Queens: The Essential History of Women in Hip-Hop by Kathy Landoli: Herstory of the female pioneers of HipHop.

Read This to Get Smarter by Blair Imani: A guide to being an informed, compassionate and socially conscious person. From racial and sexual orientation to disability, class and beyond.

Women Don't Owe You Pretty by Florence Given: about the image of women in our society and how it is still characterized by superficiality and sexism, and what restrictions this has for women.

Tough: My Journey to True Power by Terry Crews: Autobiographical reflection on masculinity, shame, sex, experiences with racism and relationships. An honest experience report on the confrontation with one's own toxic masculinity.


Les couilles sur la table by Victoire Tuillon: Critical consideration of masculinity with men. Podcast on Audible and Spotify.

Learning good consent: A guide to implement consensus. <https://konsenslernen.noblogs.org> > scroll down for english version


EXIT RACISM by Tupoka Ogette: History of the origin of racism, explains racist structures that have established themselves in our thoughts and actions. Entry help for racism-critical thinking. Also on Spotify. www.exitracism.de

Feminist strike house: a room in zurich by Women, Trans, Inter, Genderqueer people for non-commercial, feminist, queer and antiracist groups, events and other forms of political activism. www.streikhaus.ch/en/

Café Révolution: A place of encounter created by Black and Black-read women and femmes for people affected by anti-Black racism and a wider, interested public. Also offer anti-racist workshops for white people.
www.caferevolution.ch

 **bgirlsessions:** about BGirls and events.

 **Blairimani:** A black, bisexual, Muslim woman. About various topics.

 **Diefeministen:** Non-profit organization that wants to sensitize and mobilize men to gender equality and gender identities.

THANKS

Our thanks go to Marie-Paule Ricchi, Kilian Dellers, Theodor Teddy Diedenhofen, Mimi, Sheyla Gómez, Olivia Hernandez Candelas, David Fan Bächli (Artist Name: Deijva), Earle Garnette, Celia Jenni, Becca, Timo Paris, Moritz Ringel and Louis Lüthard.

B-Girl Battles is supported by Fabriktheater Zürich, Dynamo Zürich, S.E. Studio Basel and Tanzart Bern, Schigr Productions, Couchkult as well as by the Fachausschuss Tanz und Theater BS / BL, Migros-Kulturprozent Sparx, Stanley Thomas Johnson Stiftung, Jacqueline Spengler Stiftung, Stiftung Anne-Marie Schindler, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Landis & Gyr Stiftung, Schweizerische Interpretenstiftung SIS, die Burgergemeinde Bern, die Gesellschaft zu Ober-Gerwern, FUKA-Fonds and the Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft der Stadt Luzern.