

## Crossing Lines

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Yet another generation has inherited a war-torn world and looks into the future. This has happened many times before: It's as if these young people were characters of an old play, which has been going on for centuries now, but for which there's still no solution that doesn't end up in blood. They long for a sense of community, but on the other hand there's always an unavoidable moment of change and division as they try to assert themselves on the world/stage.

A struggle arises between the desire of living in harmony with others -with the fellow human beings, with nature, and with the "otherness" within oneself- and the pursuit of continuous progress, which grants humans more and more power while, at the same time, opening new perspectives and ensuring prosperity.

The traces left by this to and fro movement, when gentle, may somehow resemble the wave lines on the sand. But in some other cases, the collision of these two contradictory forces erupts violently and looks more like a storm, changing the landscape by redirecting riverbeds and the existence of many living beings in new directions.

Lines appear in human history, sometimes connecting remote points and bringing us closer together - and further beyond in our quest for happiness. However, they can also create territories, like frontiers do, or establish clear limits and discourage us from irreversible acts, like precepts or orders. How permeable are these borders? Which ones are we meant (not) to trespass? Curiosity drives us forwards and the question unfolds: What is moving on the other side?

**Crossing Lines** is a dance-theatre piece for open spaces, performed by an ensemble of young people coming from all over Europe, coordinated and artistically directed by Action theatre PAN.OPTIKUM (Freiburg/D), in cooperation with Rapucation (Berlin/D). Through hip-hop, present in dance and rap, as well as with choir passages extracted from literary texts and video elements, this large-scale production explores these questions while including the audience as part of the events. It is the culminating point of **Power of Diversity - The Crossing Lines Project**, an European large-scale cooperation project, co-funded by the Creative Culture Programme of the European Union for performances in the public space.