

Press release

Thursday 23 March 2006

Concrete Beats: La Caution

The French rap formation La Caution will be appearing at the Literaturwerkstatt Berlin's poesiefestival berlin on Sat 3 June 2006.

Soldout halls, hits in the charts, effusive reviews: La Caution are the highflyers of French hiphop. And at the poesiefestival berlin they will be in Germany for the first time. "Their texts, uncompromising and with no taboos, offend sensitive souls but carry away those who are willing to confront questions about the Banlieue", wrote Le Parisien. La Caution wants to give the Banlieue a voice which is a permanent component of public discourse and not just an outlet for social problems, above all though an artform too: "People just see rap as a kind of social scream", says Nikkfurie, "we only get a call when there's a rebellion. This tends to get on your nerves."

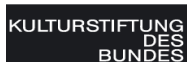
At home in a Paris suburb their music is a very personal and sometimes brutal journey through the concrete jungle of the Banlieues. The band have high expectations both of themselves and of their listeners. "Something remains of a text when the content is underlined by a poetic form. Our work consists in getting every syllable to rhyme", says Nikkfurie of La Caution. In a poetry talk, La Caution, Olivier Gagnier of the French Ministry of Culture, the sociologist Sébastien Barrio and the French studies specialist Eva Kimminich will discuss the situation in the French Banlieues, as well as the influence and language of rap.



La Caution consists of the two brothers Hi-Tekk and Nikkfurie from Noisy-Le Sec. Formed in 1996, the band had its first album in 2001 with "Asphalte Hurlante" (Screaming Asphalt), which made them one of the most charismatic and atypical hiphop bands in France.

Their texts are "metaphors of urbanization"; what makes them distinctive in musical terms is above all their innovative sound which absorbs various musical influences. They compose all their songs and do without samples for the most part. In 2006 they released the double album "Arc-en-ciel pour Daltoniens/Peines des Maures". "Thé à la menthe" was included by Steven Soderbergh in the soundtrack of "Ocean's 12".

Supported by (German
Federal Cultural Foundation)



poesiefestival berlin 2006

Concrete Beats: La Caution

Sat, 3 June 2006, 9 p.m.

Kesselhaus, Kulturbrauerei

With: La Caution (France)

Hi-Tekk, Nikkfurie, Saphir and DJ Fab

Poetry talk

Sat, 3 June 2006, 5 p.m.

Venue: N.N.

With: Hi-Tekk, Nikkfurie, Olivier Gagnier,
Sébastien Barrio and Eva Kimminich

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