

## **Official Press Text:**

While in politics the dream of a cross-border Europe is slowly but surely losing ground to key words such as “crisis” and “bailout package”, some young artists from Eastern, Southern and Central Europe present with their hiphop-project “**European Sound Initiative**“ how intercultural cooperation can work at eye level. Invited by the HipHop Cultural Center Combo and financed by the EU-support program Youth in Action, 27 MCs, singers, producers, DJs, graphic designers, visual and video artists from Spain, Hungary, France and Germany spent one week in Karlsruhe (Germany), in order to create this LP and its whole artwork. The result contains 12 songs, which give an update of the current state of the European rap-scene, and also a music video for the piece called “La Collectivité“, that captures the spirit of this whole action: community.

On “European Sound Initiative” stories are being told from all corners of the continent in five languages in total, and that in a genre mainly functioning through language. However communication does not only succeed through speaking, but also through the artistic dialog. For 40 years now hiphop as an international youth culture is present all over the globe and gives adolescents and adults an impulse to be creative, without depending on any financial or cultural capital or background. The artists on this LP are partially professionals in international demand, partially very young talents who did crucial developments with this music project. This is also an achievement of “European Sound Initiative”: to show that community does not depend on hierarchizing, but is possible beyond cultural and social differences. And particularly, that great art does not need the great stage, but only the necessary equipment, a sweaty bootcamp and love for the cause.