

A SINGLE IMAGE CAN DEFINE A MOMENT, CREATING AN INSTANT ICON.

They say a picture's worth 1,000 words, and that's especially true of one of music's most language-conscious genres: hip-hop. Contact High explores four decades of photography, from the late 1970s to today, documenting a revolution not just in music, but in politics, race relations, fashion, and culture. Through more than 170 iconic images of hip-hop's most influential artists (Missy Elliott, Jay-Z, Queen Latifah, Tupac, and more) — including contact sheets that give us a rare glimpse into the creative process of a photo session — Contact High examines the evolution of hip-hop, connecting us with the experiences, identities, and places that have shaped the world's most popular music genre.

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

- See how artists like The Notorious B.I.G., Aaliyah, Wu-Tang Clan, Sir Mix-A-Lot, and so many more defined themselves to the public.
- Explore hip-hop throughout the United States, including the regional cultures that flourished in different parts of the US.
- In addition to photographs, artifacts from MoPOP's permanent collection such as early rap battle fliers, Tupac Shakur manuscripts, Flavor magazines, and costumes from Sha-Rock, The Notorious B.I.G., and MF DOOM add to our understanding of hip-hop culture.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

We have an amazing series of events that will start in October and stretch well into November, which is Washington State Hip-Hop History Month.

- Mic Check One-Two | A Virtual Mini-Concert featuring Sound Off! Alum 49th Parallel
 Friday, October 15 | Facebook Live | 6:00pm PT
- Frame It: Photography Workshop for Beginners with Kariba Jack
 Friday, October 29 | Virtual | 6:00pm PT
- Paint & Sip with Claudia Villalobos
 Friday, November 5 | Virtual | 6:00pm PT
- A Conversation with Sha Rock: Mother of the Mic Friday, November 19 | Virtual | 6:00PM

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