

# THE HUFFINGTON POST

## 14 New, Must-See Public Artworks Across the Globe

### 1. Hamburg, Germany: "Crossing the Elbe" by Anthony McCall



Anthony McCall "Crossing the Elbe" in Hamburg, Germany -- © Martin Rogge Deichtorhallen

Though Germany once had a thriving tradition of "Kunst in Offenlichen Raum" -- a fairly analogous concept to Anglo-Saxon public art -- spending cuts in recent years have largely derailed new projects. In the wealthy port city of Hamburg, however, British artist Anthony McCall realized a city-spanning light installation, "Crossing the Elbe" (through March 22, 2014) in which three search lights, located on top of the Spiegel newspaper building, a bunker in Wilhelmsburg, and the Falckenburg Collection light up the sky in narrow beams for 20 minutes each evening after sunset. They follow a slowly sweeping course over the river, throughout the piece's year-long run. The project is a poignant, Foucauldian metaphor for the city's current "Leap across the Elbe" initiative as part of the Internationale Bauausstellung (IBA), which seeks to enliven previously neglected (and impoverished) neighborhoods south of the river.