

PAUSE

by Valeska Gert

‘Valeska Gert (1892–1978) is one of the models for the *Berliner Genialen Dilletanten*. Coming from modern dance and theatre, she performed PAUSE in the 1920s – to hold, to pause, to interrupt: inertia, motionlessness. Valeska Gert’s PAUSE is fundamental for all performance arts, just as John Cage’s composition *4’33”* is for music or *Black Square* by Kazimir Malevitch is for painting.’

translated by the author from Wolfgang Müller, *Valeska Gert: Ästhetik der Präsenzen* (Berlin: Schmitz, 2010).