Statements (1965-79)

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**PERFORMANCE ART 869**

**My** body is the intention, my body is the event, my body is the result. [1965]

**For** the performance, I act like a beforeman.

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I think that art is always a declaration which contradicts the complacent way of the world. Scandal is sincerity when it is not programmed.

Sincerity is scandal when the wise world officially runs up against it.

Abstraction in more recent art ended with the Aktion.

From this point on no dogma which for about the last 70 years had claimed any form of validity could any longer be used as a base..

From now on the laws of the wonder world hold sway.

Art is hope, prayer and the possession of the individual.

Whoever wants to partake of this sinful secret may join us in confession.

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**Art** is beautiful but it is hard, like a religion without a purpose.

The little song is gentle To life I say yes!

**VALIE EXPORT Women's Art: A Manifesto (1972)**

**THE POSITION OF ART IN THE WOMEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT IS THE** POSITION OF WOMAN **IN THE ART'S MOVEMENT.**

**THE HISTORY OF WOMAN IS THE HISTORY OF MAN.**

because man has defined the image of woman for both man and woman, men create and control the social and communication media such as science and art, word and image, fashion and architecture, social transportation and division of labor. men have projected their image **of woman** onto these media, and in accordance with these medial patterns they gave shape **to** woman. if reality is a social construction and men its engineers, we are dealing with a male reality. women have not yet come to themselves, because they have not had a chance to speak insofar as they had no access to the media.

let women speak so that they can find themselves, this is what **I** ask for in order to achieve a self-defined image of ourselves and thus a different view of the social function of women. we women must participate in the construction of reality via the building stones of media-communication.

**\* Gunter Brus, excerpts (1965-79) from Arnulf Meifert, "Stundenbticher des Entblossten Herzens" (Books of Hours of the Heart Laid Bare), in *Gunter Brus: Bild-Dichtungen* (London: Whitechapel Art Gallery, 198o), 7-61. Translation by Dennis Clark. By permission of the author.**

**\*\* Valie Export, "Women's Art: A Manifesto" (March 1972), *Neues Forum* 228 (January 5973): 47. Translation by Resina Haslinger. This piece was written on the occasion of the exhibition *MAGNA, Geminism: Art and Creativ­ity,* organized by Export. By permission of the author.**