

# *Cheap Lecture* and *The Cow Piece*

## Jonathan Burrows and Matteo Fargion

*Cheap Lecture* (2009) is a translation of John Cage's *Lecture On Nothing*, presented as a rhythmic spoken performance set to music. In a rant about empty hands, audience, time, repetition and dancing, Jonathan Burrows and Matteo Fargion reflect upon and continue the journey begun in their earlier trilogy of work, *Both Sitting Duet* (2002), *The Quiet Dance* (2005) and *Speaking Dance* (2006). With philosophy and wit, the two artists reflect on their work, drawing us outwards into a series of unforeseen images and digressions. *Cheap Lecture* is followed directly by *The Cow Piece* (2009), which repeats the same structure, testing it to the limit in an attempt to renegotiate the rules we have just been hearing. Using objects, text, movement and sound, *The Cow Piece* is a chaotic meditation upon dance, music and mortality.

*Cheap Lecture* and *The Cow Piece* have been invited so far to 28 countries around the world, and *Cheap Lecture* was selected for the 2009 'best of the year' Het Theaterfestival in Brussels.

*'There are few performers who can hold an audience captive like this double act... the timing of every note, shrug, laugh and gesture is awesome. Five stars.'*  
The Guardian, London, on *Cheap Lecture* and *The Cow Piece*

Duration one hour, no interval.

*Cheap Lecture* was commissioned by Cultureel Centrum Maasmechelen and Dans in Limburg and first performed at the Cultureel Centrum Maasmechelen. *The Cow Piece* was co-produced by Kaaitheater, Brussels.