

Tasteful Turntable

A Symphony for Mouth and Ears.



Directed, composed and designed by Lars Kynde and Nikolaj Kynde.
Food composition by Mette Martinussen and Augusta Sørensen.
Pocelain by Giulia Crispiani
First performed by Lars Kynde, Nikolaj Kynde and Augusta Sørensen.

Produced by Wundergrund on Tour in collaboration with the Copenhagen Cooking Festival.
First performed august 2014 at the Copenhagen Cooking Festival.

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How does sound affect our perception of food, and how does taste affect our experience of music? Tasteful Turntable is a sensuous performance that explores this sense-interference between music and gastronomy.

The performance takes place around a slowly rotating dining table designed to let the guests experience parallel stimuli through these two senses. Different small dishes containing only one bite each are carefully positioned on the table, and four guests wearing headphones are seated around it. As the table slowly turns, the guests taste the flavors and listen to a synchronized music composition coherent with the position of the foods and their tastes.

For the composer, the tastes are used side by side with the sounds in the score. For the chef, the sounds are used to flavour the other ingredients.



Development of new tables and new compositions. Danish Art Workshops, 2015, Copenhagen



Performance at Restaurant 1th, Wundergrund festival 2014, Copenhagen.

Thematic Statement

There has the past few years been a boom in scientific research in the area of how sound affects the taste of our food. Commercially there has also been large interest from Heston Blumenthal in 1997 introduced his iPod-enhanced seafood dish, Sound of the Sea, and till today where Ben & Jerry's is considering a sonic range of ice-cream flavours. Never the less the goal of the Tasteful Turntable is to use this field of research as a medium for artistic expression.

Lars Kynde's works explore different aspects of synesthesia. How does stimulation of one sense affect our perception through another? He is particularly interested in how music inspires our sense of sight, taste and smell, and in what manner our experience through these senses alters the perception and creation of the music.

The new version of Tasteful Turntable is a furthering this interdisciplinary research with a team of collaborators (Composer Nikolaj Kynde, Chef Mette Martinussen, Food-artist Augusta Sørensen, and Ceramic artist Giulia Crispiani).



First Movement

Audio Spice:

Four times the same taste repeated, but each time with a very different sound. Is the food experienced the same when the sound changes?

Duration 3'34"



Second Movement

Flavouring the Sound.

Four times the same sound repeated, but each time with a very different flavour. Is the sound experienced the same when the flavour changes?

Duration 2'58"



Third Movement

Segregation of complexity.

A dish consisting of a complexity of four very different types of flavours is given. During the movement each flavour is tasted separately and interpreted in music before both food and music is put together again to the same complexity of four flavours with four sounds.

Duration 2'36"



Fourth Movement

Portrait.

Assignment for the chef: Make a portrait of an ingredient. Present it in all the different forms it can take and enhance each aspect of the ingredient one at a time.

Assignment to the composer: Make a counterpoint that contrast or build up around the portrayed ingredient.

The chef chose to portray the carrot, the composer chose to build upon the the sound of chewing a carrot.

Duration 2'30"



Fifth Movement

Tasty Associations.

Short narratives were in fifth movement used to mediate the translation between taste to sound. The food and the music is linked by being the chef's and the composer's associations on the same story. As in the other movements the food is to be eaten at the exact same time as the corresponding sound.

Duration 3'36"

