

Park Avenue Whiter, New York, 3rd February 2011

Performance

THE DESSERT IS PRESENT

ANETA STOJNIC



At the elegant "Park Avenue Winter", artist Aneta Stojnic orders the "Vulkano Flambé" dessert especially created by Marina Abramovic as a winter season specialty on a menu of this restaurant. However she does not consume it by eating it. She places herself across the table from the dessert and sits silently, focused, concentrated, looking at the dessert for a long while. After about an hour she finally gets up and walks away.

(historical) reference no.1

Marina Abramović performance "The Artist is Present" at MoMa, March-May 2010

„A pioneer of performance art, Marina Abramović (born Yugoslavia, 1946) began using her own body as the subject, object, and medium of her work in the early 1970s. For the exhibition *Marina Abramović: The Artist Is Present*, The Museum of Modern Art's first performance retrospective, Abramović performed in the Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium every day the Museum was open between March 14 and May 31, 2010. **Visitors were encouraged to sit silently across from the artist for a duration of their choosing, becoming participants in the artwork.**“

Source: <http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2010/marinaabramovic/>

(historical) reference no.2

Marina Abramovic collaboration with Manhattan restaurant "Park Avenue Winter" developing the exclusive dessert "Volcano Flambe", January-March 2011

„The latest work of the performance artist Marina Abramovic, may be her most ephemeral. It's Volcano Flambé, a dessert prepared by Kevin Lasko, the chef at the seasonally changing Park Avenue Winter. "You receive this dessert in front of you and it's kind of a mystery," Ms. Abramovic said. Its core of dark chocolate ice cream is covered with meringue, decorated with gold leaf and a swirl of spun sugar, bedded on chocolate cookie crumbs and flambéed with rum. The artist's booklet of off-beat recipes, "Spirit Cooking," and an MP3 player with a talk by her accompany the dessert. It's one of several artist collaborations the restaurant has organized with Creative Time, a nonprofit group.

Volcano Flambé is \$20 through March 20 at Park Avenue Winter, 100 East 63rd Street, (212) 644-1900.“

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/12/dining/12art.html? r=1>

Performance "The Desert is Present" critically cross-refers Marina Abramovic's performance "The Artist is Present" and her "Volcano flambé" collaboration with Park Avenue Winter. I take those works/events as a starting point for questioning the very role, function and position of the artist and the art work in contemporary consumer society where trough media spectacle of culture industries art has become a mere commodity - hype, trend, brand.. Replacing "the Artist" with "the Dessert", I play with the problematic construction of artist-subject within the contemporary system of art.





