



# ***The Last Supper***

*a fusion of process and performance*

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## *format»*

- 1 evening
- 12 guests
- 1 theme
- 12 perspectives
- 4 courses
- 3 x 4 presentations between the courses
- 10 minutes per guest

## *team»*

- 1 chef
- 2 chef assistants
- 1 artist
- 1 artist assistant
- 1 photographer
- 1 cameraman
- 1 sound technician
- 1 lighting technician
- 1 moderator
- 2 overseers
- 2 historians
- 3 hostesses
- 1 event manager

## *the 4 elements of the process*

*time»*

One evening. Approximately five hours. Unconventional time structure (breaks between courses for presentations by the guests). A rigorously maintained schedule.

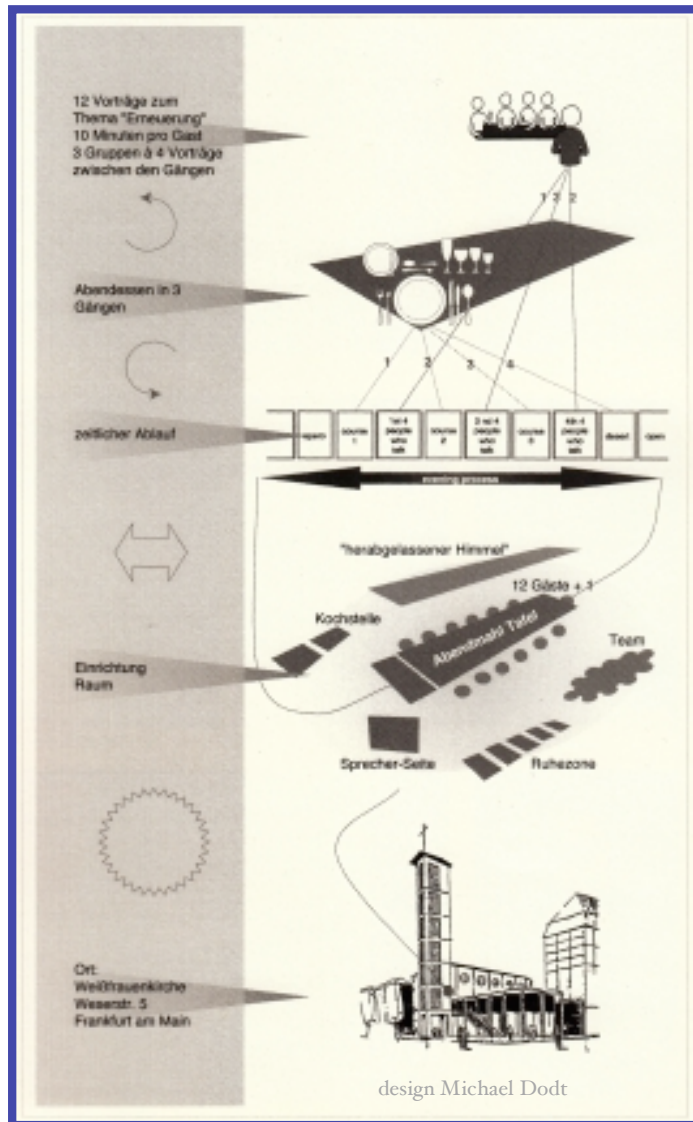
Research question: How much time do you need to create a rich and meaningful experience for people? (Based on my experience as a seminar leader, I would have said at least three days.)

The process works both with and within strict time limits. Time constraint:

1. The process limits the amount of guests to no more than twelve.
2. The process limits the time each guest has to express him- or herself in relation to the given theme to ten minutes. (Simon Grand: »Anything worth saying can be said in ten minutes.«)

The clock is ticking. No dramatic tension without time limits.

«water |



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*space»*

Islands in the space – team table, table for guests, table for protocol, cooking and serving table; *room in a room*, which serves as a studio for the artist, who is working directly on the walls, using chalk.



*roof under a roof*: the canopy over the table where the guests are seated provides a kind of sanctuary or shelter from all the space above, making for a more intimate atmosphere. (Note: The *roof under a roof* is now a permanent installation in the church. A kind of heaven on earth – more than one visitor to the church has described it as such.)

Contrasts: Vertical three dimensional surface of the *room in a room* versus horizontal two dimensional surface of the *roof under a roof*. Black walls of the *room in a room* versus white of the *roof under a roof*.



«air |

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*food»*

Four course meal, which is prepared on site, whenever possible in the space where the guests are gathered.

Intellectual: the presentations by the guests.

Energetic: produced by the event itself through the simultaneous fulfillment of various tasks and functions.

«*earth* |



*media»*

High tech, low tech.

Various means are employed by the team to capture the event.

Various means or methods are open to the guests for expressing themselves in relation to the theme.

«fire |





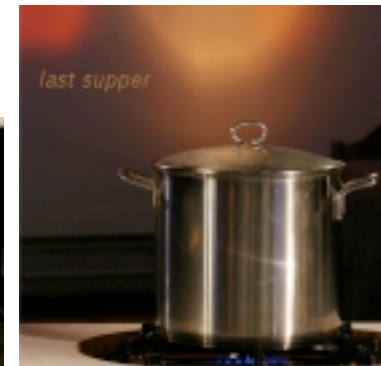
***the 3 k.s: kultur (culture), kirche (church), kunst (art)***

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*The Last Supper* is an event in which the social, the spiritual, and the creative can richly infuse each other.

***the 4<sup>th</sup> k»***

At the root of the above three: ***kochen*** /cooking as both process (transformational and/or creative in nature) and product (intellectual, physical, spiritual).





### ***the 3 c.s: community, communication, creativity***

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The film producer Dino De Laurentis: »In Naples, when you ask a man his age, he won't tell you how old he is. He'll say, I still have the three C<sub>s</sub> – *cervello, cuore, coglione*.«

A correspondence between these three C<sub>s</sub> and those of *The Last Supper* can be made.

#### ***The Last Supper:***

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##### *cuore*»

1. An exercise in communion, community. Sharing the same food in a setting that honors a common religious and /or cultural heritage. »**A dining fellowship – that's what Christian communion was, in the beginning. People sitting around a table eating.**«

«*heart* |

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##### *cervello*»

2. An exercise in communication – each guest has an opportunity to express him- or herself in relation to the given theme. A »universal« theme. (By having each person express him- or herself in this way, a shifting perspective on the theme takes place, creating a kind of kaleidoscope of meaning.)

«*brain* |

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##### *coglione*»

3. An exercise in creativity (creative self-expression) – through art, cooking, the presentations given by the guests; through film, photography, written documentation; through graphic design, lighting design, interior design and decoration. (A case can be made for the link between *creativity* and *coglione*. Piet Mondrian, for example, believed that »a drop of sperm spilt is a masterpiece lost.« Balzac was of the same opinion.)

«*balls* |

## *the 4 challenges*

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1»

To create a rich and meaningful experience for people over the course of a single evening. (By rich and meaningful I mean something approaching the kind of experience you can have in a seminar like the ones I conduct.)  
Something truly memorable.

2»

To capture this event as it is happening – on video, through photography and the written word – and then represent it in an appropriate format or formats.

3»

To create and maintain an interdisciplinary work group committed to and capable of meeting the above two challenges.

4»

Last but not least: To form partnerships with those who see value in such an event. To get the necessary outside support, financial and otherwise.

