

THE LAST SUPPER

for performer and electronics

A five-course meal of fast food is eaten, purchased fresh and locally prior to the performance.

In preparation, an elaborate table setting is created, including candles, a table cloth, a napkin, a variety of appropriate cutlery, dishes, glasses, and anything else that one finds most lavish for an opulent meal. The performer may be waited upon.

Two microphones are attached to the performer's face to amplify the sounds of chewing and swallowing. Lavalier microphones touching the skin proved to be the most successful, one on the neck and another on the cheek. Contact microphones are attached to the performer's plate, to amplify the sounds of both the cutlery and food moving across the plate. Each of the microphones are sent to two distortion pedals running in cascade, for the purposes of achieving a maximum amount of saturation in the signal. The performer or an assistant determines the appropriate settings for the distortion pedals, reflecting the notation in the menu-score.

At the start of the third course, the performer picks up a copy of the King James Version of the Bible resting on the table and reads from Luke 22: 19-20. Each word is read independently with a pause for the consumption of more food. The reading of the text lasts the entire duration of the third course. Each word is spoken under one slowly inhaled breath in the lower tessitura of the voice (glottal effect). It should take about five to ten seconds to pronounce each word.

The menu may be modified to reflect regional variations or dietary restrictions; however, the food must be fast food.

Robert Blatt, 2011

The Menu

Entrée:

*Chicken McNuggets served with BBQ sauce
&
Vanilla Milkshake as an Apéritif*

no distortion

Fish Course:

*Filet-O-Fish
&
House White Wine (Orange Fanta)*

medium distortion

Main Course:

*Big Mac served with a large order of French Fries and ketchup
&
House Red Wine (Coca-Cola)*

*“This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.”
“This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”*

extreme distortion

Salad Course:

Side Salad

medium distortion

Dessert:

*McFlurry with Kitkat
Chocomel as a Digestif*

no distortion

Sparkling water (Sprite) is served throughout the meal as a palette cleanser.