



Carl Rowe & Simon Davenport, *A Banquet of Ultra Bankruptcy*, 2013 (installation view)

## SYNAESTHESIA/3: HISTORY OF THE SENSES

CARL ROWE & SIMON DAVENPORT  
SERGIO MALTAGLIATI & PIETRO GROSSI

### SYNAESTHESIA/3: HISTORY OF THE SENSES

CARL ROWE & SIMON DAVENPORT / SERGIO MALTAGLIATI & PIETRO GROSSI

The exhibition *History of the Senses* deals with synaesthesia from the point of view of art and media history. Two artistic positions refer back to different movements from the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, giving the series a historical component, while nevertheless dealing with contemporary issues.

*A Banquet for Ultra Bankruptcy*, by Simon Davenport and Carl Rowe, is based on Marinetti's manifesto *La Cucina Futurista* which forms the starting point for five performances followed by an exhibition. During the performances a six-course meal of selected foods is combined with images, sounds and scents. Each course is designed as an aesthetic experience, allowing the audience to participate in simultaneous sensations. While Carl Rowe is responsible for the cooking, Simon Davenport will complement the culinary delights with external stimuli such as poetry, released gases or gestural movements. The performances will be recorded on video. After the last banquet, table, chairs and props will remain in position and together with video footage form the subsequent exhibition.

Italian composer Pietro Grossi (1917—2002) was one of the pioneers of computer generated music. He also used his composing programs to develop early computer graphics. With the use of *QBasic* he developed the program *HomeArt*. Sergio Maltagliati studied under Pietro Grossi at the Luigi Cherubini Conservatory in Florence. He developed new methods of musical compositions, in which the score underwent significant visualisation. In the work **Circus 8** (1986/2008) Maltagliati has reworked the Grossi's original programs, adapting the code to create a generative program that simultaneously produces sound and abstract colours and shapes. The result could be described as computer generated synaesthesia.

Regine Rapp & Christian de Lutz (curators)

**ARTLABORATORYBERLIN**

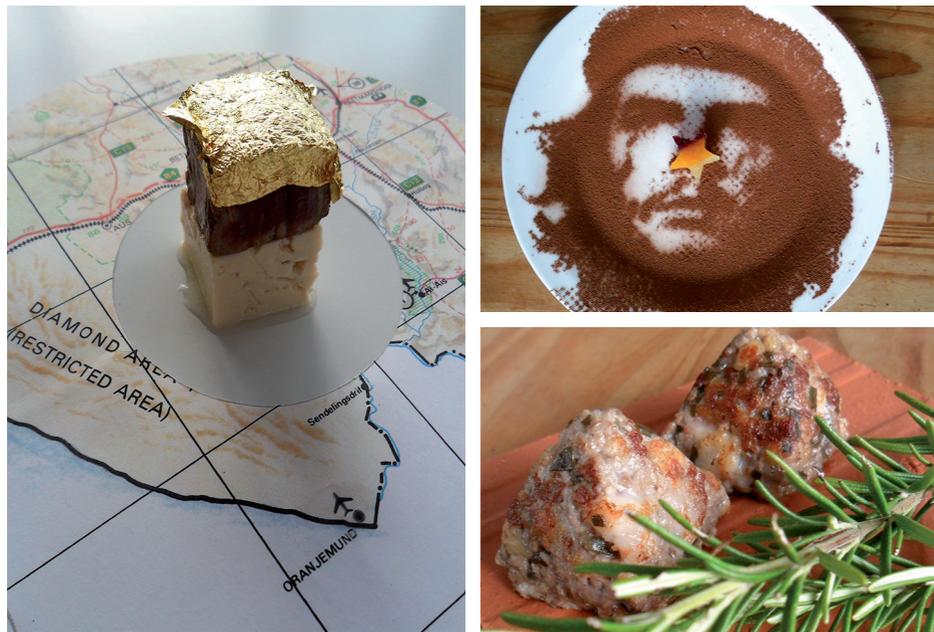
Prinzenallee 34, 13359 Berlin / [www.artlaboratory-berlin.org](http://www.artlaboratory-berlin.org)  
23 March — 12 May / Fri — Sun / 2—6 pm

With the generous support of the Norwich University  
of the Arts.

## CARL ROWE & SIMON DAVENPORT

// A Banquet for Ultra Bankruptcy

»For the performance and installation *A Banquet for Ultra Bankruptcy* we have adopted the Italian Futurist principle of a simultaneous sensory dining experience, made contemporary through references to global financial malfunction and social inertia. The theme of Synaesthesia provides a basis upon which we aim to explore the conflation of aesthetics and politics. Previous collaborations include *Ready Steady Marinetti* (2007), a performance that combined politics, aesthetics, cookery and surrealism and *Salivate* (2008) when we converted a vacant shop into a public projection space and screened a series of short video works in response to the involuntary physiological action of salivation.«

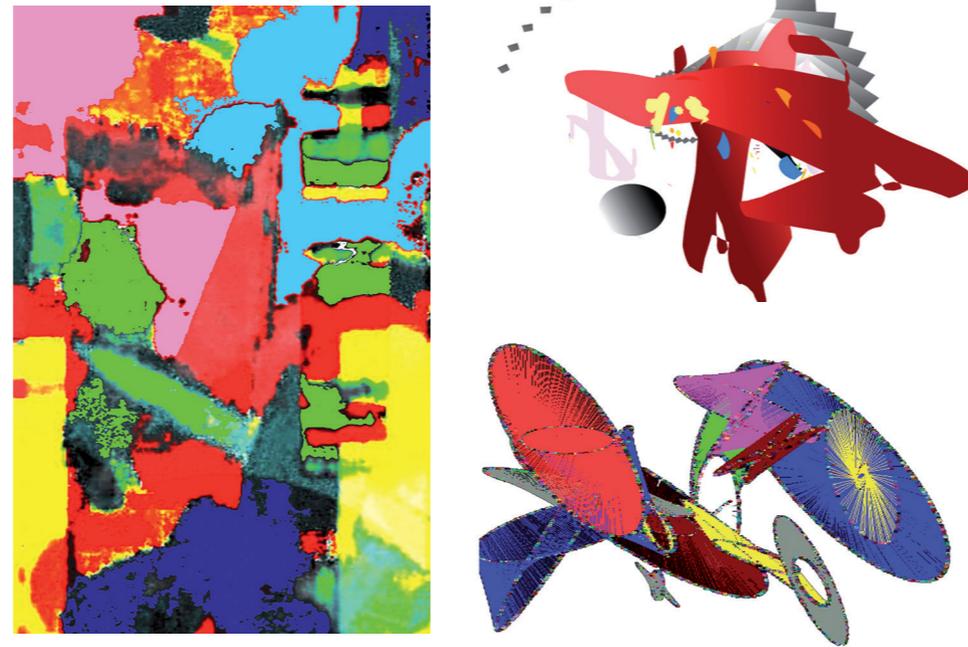


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## SERGIO MALTAGLIATI & PIETRO GROSSI

// Images for Listening

»My software *autom@tedVisualMusiC* is based on visual programs which Pietro Grossi realized in the 80's and on historical research (from Arcimboldo to Kandinsky) on different ways of visualizing music. The graphic processes that Grossi produced are reflected in images rather than sound ideas but they actually result from the same aesthetic line which characterized his previous activity as a composer. Grossi's programs are written in ordinary programming language, each characterized by a few instructions, within which space is given for pseudo-random procedures as part of a unique artistic compositional idea, and subsequently developed into a myriad of graphic variations.«



Left: Pietro Grossi & Sergio Maltagliati, *Circus 8/8*, 1986/2010 (screenshot)

Bottom right: Pietro Grossi & Sergio Maltagliati, *Circus 8*, 1986/2008 (screenshot)

Top right: Sergio Maltagliati, *Goldberg Variations*, 2003 (screenshot)

## SYNAESTHESIA/3: HISTORY OF THE SENSES



Simon Davenport, *Dashboard on Fire*, 2012 (installation view)

OPENING // Friday, 22 March 2013 / 8 pm

23 March — 12 May / Fri — Sun, 2 — 6 pm and by appointment

### ARTLABORATORYBERLIN

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