

COUNTERMEAL

DECONSTRUCTING FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

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Food in society's memory has infinite nuances. This project aims at communicating the great ravages of this century's agricultural crisis through a performance dinner.

This crisis was initiated during the Green Revolution in the 1950's, with the arrival of agro-chemicals, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), immense food empires and monocultures. It was a 360-degree turn in the ways farms and lands were managed which gave birth to today's great loss of food sovereignty: countries' loss of food security, loss of fertility in soils, farmers' extreme poverty and forced migration, India's 300 000 suicides, abandoned families, abandoned farms, loss of food, and seed diversity.

While there are many victims in this catastrophe, the project focuses on the last victim in the food chain, the consumer. The idea is to create awareness, through a performative action regarding the main reason of this catastrophe: the loss of balance in our food system. I believe that through the expression of this imbalance, the viewer, or in this case performer, will become aware of the critical loss of food sovereignty and the several victims of this broken chain.

The first exercise of this project was performed in December 2019 at Harvard Graduate School of Design for Krzysztof Wodiczko's ADPD Proseminar's final review. For this particular exercise we chose to host a traditional Mexican supper, cooked by chef Inés Benítez, where the menu was specially curated for each ingredient to demonstrate the food crisis great ravages in Mexico and the world.

The idea for Kirkland Gallery is to perform the second dinner exercise for the gallery opening event of GSD's International Women's day hosted by WiD student group on March 5th. This dinner will have a specially curated menu related to the week's topic where I will be hosting and reading the performance script.

This performance is supported by a 7-day exhibit exhibition of the ingredients used, as well as articles, graphics and descriptions that demonstrate the great damage that this economy is doing to many systems of our modern world.

