

PRESS RELEASE:
RUDE FOOD FIESTA: IT'S A BIT OF A MOUTHFUL

Comanis Food Provocateurs present...
Rude Food Fiesta: *It's a bit of a mouthful!*

Saturday 14th September, 4pm till 11pm
Edible Eastside, Fazeley Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 5RS
Tickets £15 (<http://rudefoodfiesta.eventbrite.co.uk/>)



Comanis presents **Rude Food Fiesta: It's a bit of a mouthful** to parody the ubiquitous food festival. **Rude Food Fiesta** has been conceived and developed by Comanis Food Provocateurs, a Birmingham based trio of female curators, with the intention of bringing people together through food and art. Comanis use the charge of lewd suggestion and the power of women's laughter to invert convention and parody the everyday.

Rude Food Fiesta will engage its visitors in a food-related programme of food, art, performance, competition and music. The event will be challenging, memorable and spiked with humour. Attendees will be whole-heartedly encouraged, and expected, to join in!

Set amidst the industrial landscape of Birmingham's Digbeth area **Rude Food Fiesta** is nestled in the urban oasis of *Edible Eastside*. Visitors will enter/exit the festival through a specially designed 'orifice' which is sure to make them laugh out loud, the festival then opens out into the 'alimentary canal', and winds up at the Grand Union Canal! Artist collective (h)edgeKelektiv have created a theatrical set to experience the festival, and Liz Howell has been commissioned to make 'undie bunting' that can be worn by visitors if they want?

Rude Food Fiesta will take its visitors on a rip-roaring, raucous and at times ridiculous ride. On entry the visitors will be offered a helium aperitif, and then a short walk through the vegetables beds they can start the festivities with an afternoon tea of hand painted cookies and tea-infused cocktails accompanied by Birmingham's own Ukelele Group Moselele, who've created three 30 minute sets of naughty tunes!

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Companis has commissioned food producers Pop Up Dosa, Honeycat Cookies, Bearwood Pantry, Albert Smith the Comedy Baker, and earth oven artist/chef Lizzy Bean to create bespoke food and drink for the event (think Big Jugs Cocktail Bar, Glory Hole Pies) and furthermore there'll be a selection of limited edition cakes by the incredible cake-artist Annabel de Vetten-Peterson of Conjuror's Kitchen.

Guests can get down and dirty with a vagina pasta-making demonstrations led by 'Margot Clunge' - a sexually frustrated Fanny Craddock type character courtesy of Kindle Theatre and performer Nina Smith; Performance artist Kate Spence has been commissioned - "This one's for you!" is an exclusive performance, where only a few ticket holders will have an opportunity to experience an intimate one to one with Kate as she dances, 'just for you', to the soundtrack of your own choice, whilst you enjoy your chosen food.

National Storytelling Laureate, Katrice Horsley, will be reading smutty excerpts from found paperbacks throughout the event, and the whole fiesta will be compered by our very own 'Muthapucker' aka performer Vicky Roden, who will be our androgynous hostess for the day.

Guests can wile away the afternoon supping some specially brewed ales - created by Greg Cox and brewed by locally based Fownes Brewery. Or, for the more adventurous, sample some experimental whisky cocktails ("Harvey Gangbanger anyone?") by Birmingham's famed Whisky Miss - Amy Seton - in collaboration with the Church Inn's very own Carl Finn (of 'Soul Food' fame).

The sonic backdrop will be eclectically stunning, if not surreal, with Moselele thrashing out naughty tunes, Sam Underwood performing with his 'augmented' tuba and other garden implements, Beth Bellis 'Rude Food Quartet' will provide a soundscape for competitions, and the day will climax in a fabulous cheesy set by Charity Shop DJ.

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And if that's not enough, guests will be able to get competitive with a series of ridiculous, often lewd, food-based competitions and food eating challenges - wearing bespoke food-hats by international artists Miho Shimizu and Kirsty Roberts! Oh yes!!



And that's not mentioning the 'Unlucky Dip'...

RUDE FOOD FIESTA
SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER, 4PM TILL 11 PM
EDIBLE EASTSIDE, FAZELEY STREET, DIGBETH, B5 5RS

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

POP UP BOSA
MOSELLE
UBUNTU
ALBERT SMITH THE COMEDIAN BAKER
BEARWOOD PANTRY
VICKY RODEN
EARTH OVEN BY LIZZY BEAN
HONEYCAT COOKIES
ELIZABETH HOWELL
BIG JOCS COCKTAILS

THE LINE UP:

CHARITY SHOP DJ
KATE SPENCE
THE CHURCH INN
MASTERBAKER IN RESIDENCE
KINDLE THEATRE
BIRMINGHAM WHISKY CLUB
KIRSTY ROBERTS & MIHO SHIMIZU
OFFEDGE KOLEKTIV
BETH BELLS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
SAM UNDERWOOD

A parody of the ubiquitous food festival. There's plenty to stuff in your cake-hole. Entering via a giant mouth you will be taken on a journey through our 'allmentary canal' and wind up at the Grand Union Canal! Expect specially commissioned rude food, lewd cooking demonstrations, artist performances, racing and competitions, artist designed brewed ales and live music. See our website www.companis.co.uk

TICKETS £15
AVAILABLE AT WWW.RUDEFOODFIESTA.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK

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Additional information:

For press interviews and images please contact:

Sian Tonkin - 07930 942 707 – companis.sian@gmail.com

Kaye Winwood – 07834 244609 – companis.kaye@gmail.com

Rude Food Fiesta has received financial support from Arts Council England.

Companis is three girls who brought you *Bone Dinner* at Eastside Projects, Birmingham and *Anarchidinner* at Barbican, London. We delight in the absurd, the naughty and the down-right dirty, weaving this into our work of bespoke and humorous dining experiences which thoroughly chew and spit out the norms associated with eating, immersing the diner in a fusion of performance, food and spectacle. www.companis.co.uk

Edible Eastside is a very special vibrant and contemporary urban garden located on a derelict brownfield site. The garden covers a quarter of an acre of canal-side land, a former gas filling station, which has been converted into a 'pop-up' edible park using temporary containers and raised beds. www.edibleeastside.net

Kate Spence is a live artist creating work that is intimate, interactive, seductive, repulsive (sometimes both) and plays on social power dynamics. She has performed across the UK and is also co-director of 'Home For Waifs And Strays', a new live art initiative in Birmingham. The safe word is 'jam'.
<http://artistkatespence.webeden.co.uk>

Vicky Roden – Vicky's current practice is centred around mythology and narratives, and she often finds herself working with snatches of text and manufactured creatures to explore this. www.vickyroden.com

Bearwood Pantry is a food cooperative based in Bearwood, nr to Birmingham, we source ethical and locally produced food for our community. Interested in the politics and pragmatics of food distribution and production, we are essentially a meeting place between the field and the dinner table. www.bearwoodpantry.com

Miho Shimzu and Kirsty Roberts - Miho and Kirsty met on the Masters program at the Piet Zwart Institute, Rotterdam and have spent a lot of time talking about costumes and exchanging fancy-dress gifts since. Kirsty makes work which explores the possibilities of inhabiting a character. She works with old fashion, mainly lifted from screen musicals (e.g pig latin, cowboy yodeling, yams as a contraceptive) to enter into these characters. Miho is interested in audience involvement in art and also in the functionality and aesthetics of the decorative arts. Costumes and props have always been her fascination, as a way of exploring characters and gestures.

(h)edge kelektiv is a performative arts group with a specific interest in places, people and things that are on the verge. (h)edge kelektiv have collaborated with Companis on the design of the site. www.facebook.com/hedgekelektiv

Annabel de Vetten-Peterson is founder of **Conjurer's Kitchen** where Annabel de Vetten (aka Annabel Lecter) performs her culinary wizardry.
www.conjurerskitchen.com

Lizzy Bean is an established artist based in the West Midlands who makes art with people, predominantly for non-gallery settings. She is a chef and keen gardener.
www.lizzybean.com

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Pop Up Dosa – Started out as a Pop up cafe serving freshly made dosa from Kerala via their home kitchen in Birmingham. Undisputedly THE best dosa in the Midlands.
www.popupdosa.blogspot.com

Honeycat Cookies - Based in the UK Lucy Samuels bakes and decorates the most exquisite bespoke cookies, a treat for the eye as well as the mouth.
www.honeycatcookies.blogspot.co.uk

Albert Smith, owns **Ubuntu Handmade Bread** a community bread baking service, and seeks to change the community's reliance on shop bought bread and to teach people to bake their own bread. He's also a stand up comedian.
www.ubuntubread.co.uk

Sam Underwood – Mr.Underwood is a musician, sound artist and instrument designer. As well as being an accomplished music producer and live performer Mr.Underwood is often found working on a variety of leftfield projects, from setting up elaborate field recordings, to building obscure mechanical musical instruments.
www.mrunderwood.co.uk

Moselele “Some say Moselele are the second best ukulele group in Moseley, we like to think it isn't a competition. Moselele play an eclectic range of songs, though tend to specialise in electro-pop classics from the '80s and soft rock ballads, you could hear covers of anything from Meatloaf to Jessie J. All songs are professionally arranged by members of the group to be performed on ukulele and kazoo (with some shouting). Although the polished performances might imply a worrying level of commitment, Moselele actively encourage anyone and everyone to come along to their regular sessions at the Prince of Wales, Moseley on the first and third Thursdays of each month.” www.moselele.co.uk

Charity Shop DJ are producer artists who devise and shape inspirational happenings that bring people together to create and celebrate.
www.charityshopdj.com

Beth Bellis – Classically trained musician Beth Bellis has convened a quartet for Rude Food Fiesta.

Kindle Theatre is led by Emily Ayres, Samantha Fox and Olivia Winteringham, and is based in Birmingham, England. Kindle create performances that seek to playfully reinvent the theatrical experience; exploring intimate and communal exchanges within the live event. The projects range from large-scale theatrical banquet to sweaty rock gig; often including innovative food, audience engagement and live music. Kindle shows are always ensemble-led.
www.kindletheatre.org.uk

Greg Cox is a former resident of Birmingham. He now lives in London and operates a successful handmade furniture company. He's an avid home-brewer and has provided two beer recipes for Rude Food Fiesta.

Fownes Brewery is based in Sedgley, West Midlands, and was developed to combine their passions for real ale, fantasy gaming and story telling.
www.fownesbrewing.co.uk

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Amy Seton, also fondly referred to as 'The Whisky Miss', is the founder and owner of The Birmingham Whisky Club - Birmingham's only dedicated whisky-tasting events company.

www.thebirminghamwhiskyclub.co.uk

The Church Inn is a recently opened pub in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter, and the new HQ for The Soul Food Project. Bringing together their love of the music, food and the vibrant culture of New Orleans.

<http://www.churchjq.co.uk/>

Katrice Horsley is the National Storytelling Laureate.

www.katalysttales.co.uk

Elizabeth Howell is a designer, artist and project manager. Specialising in design and fabrication of set and costume for live performance and events. She has produced work for theatre productions, touring pieces, music videos, photoshoots, large scale art installations and festivals.