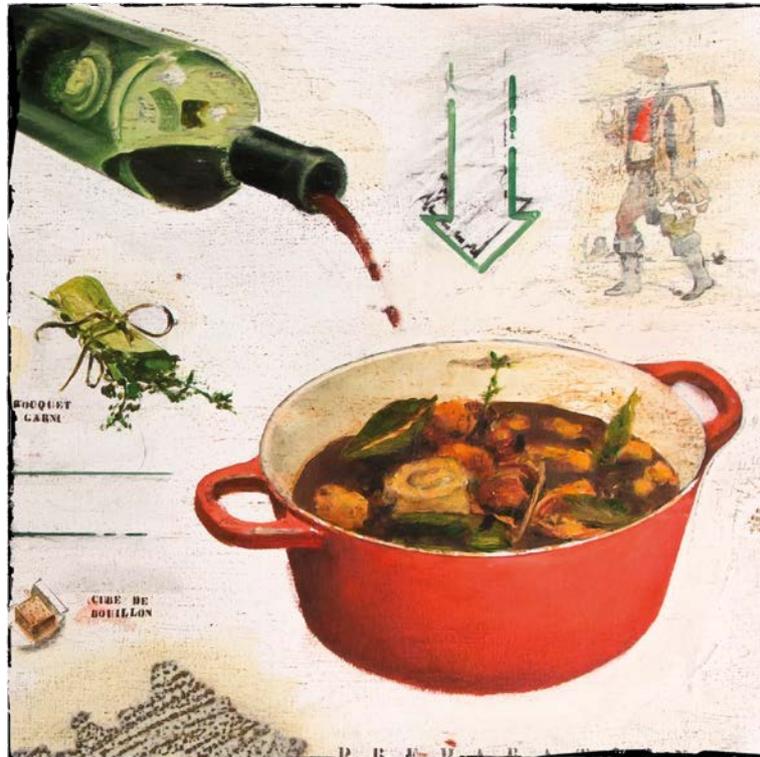


# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A European cookbook



BRUCE THURMAN

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT



FOOD FOR THOUGHT is a series of 21 oil paintings in the guise of an “Illustrated Cookbook”, a personal voyage through the different cultures of Europe using food as its lens. The way people prepare their food is perhaps the most immediate and direct expression of their culture — basic and elaborate, colorful and tactile, sensual and textured - it is, in short, everything that an artist craves when searching for a subject of interest. For me, the challenge of expressing this in paint was just too thrilling to pass up.

For instance, sauerkraut is commonly thought of as a Germanic dish, when in fact it was invented by the Mongols 2,300 years ago and imported into “Frankish” Europe via subsequent migrations. The culture of food predates any man made national borders. It evolves over generations within a specific region, to finally become an iconic expression of that locality’s identity.

These paintings seek to celebrate both the unity and the diversity of European food culture as it exists today. The ingredients used in these recipes are basically identical, yet the results are as different as the cultures that invented them. FOOD FOR THOUGHT could be considered as an allegory of today’s Europe and its inspiring complexity.

Bruce Thurman 2017

*FOOD FOR THOUGHT est une série de 21 tableaux s’inspirant d’un livre de cuisine illustré. Il représente mon voyage personnel à travers les différentes cultures d’Europe vues par le prisme des arts de la cuisine.*

*En effet, la cuisine est sans doute l’une des manières les plus immédiates d’appréhender la culture d’un pays : à la fois simple et complexe, colorée et tactile, pleine de saveurs et de texture. En bref, un rêve pour un peintre.*

*Les arts culinaires ne respectent pas les frontières nationales. Par exemple, la choucroute, dont les accents germaniques ne font aucun doute, serait née en Mongolie, il y a 2300 ans. Elle a traversé toute l’Asie, pour devenir, en fin de compte, l’emblème d’une région particulière d’Europe.*

*Ces tableaux sont un hommage à l’unité et à la diversité des cultures culinaires européennes. Bien que les ingrédients utilisés soient assez semblables, les plats expriment toute la palette des différences, source de richesse et d’échange.*

*Food for Thought peut être considéré comme une allégorie de l’Europe contemporaine, une matière à réflexion complexe, une source d’inspiration.*

Bruce Thurman 2017



Choucroute 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Linguini alla Vongole 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Mosselen witte Wijn (Mussels in White Wine) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Paella 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Bouillabaisse 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Pizza 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Fish "n" Chips 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



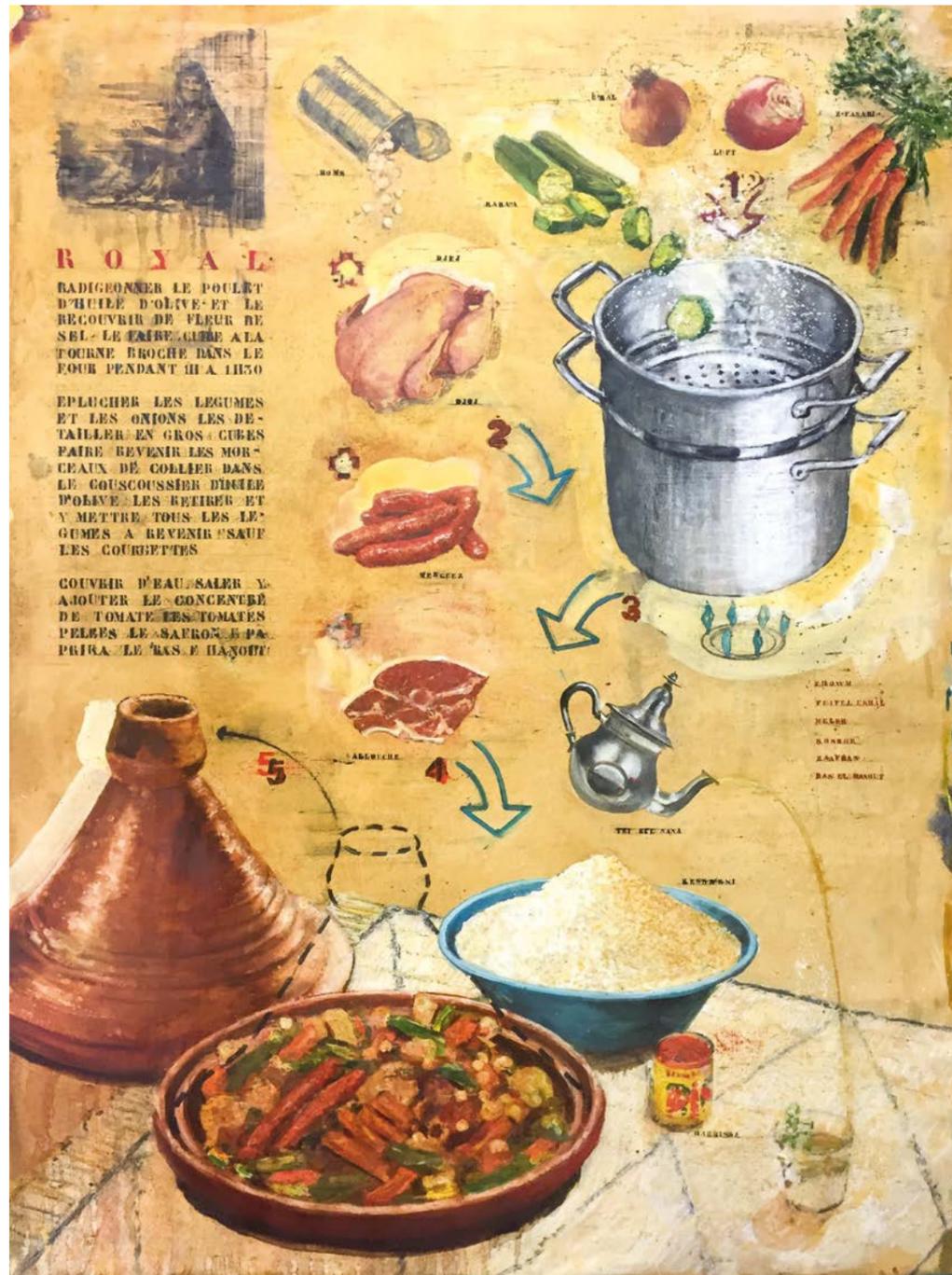
Gulyás (Goulash) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Boeuf Bourguignon 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Frietjes met Mayonaise 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Kessk'ssi (Cous-Cous) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Smørrebrød 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Tapas 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Eisbein (Pig's Knuckles) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017





Sauerbraten 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Kielbasa i Pierogi 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Mediterranean 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2018



Stew Caoireola (Mutton Stew) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Fondue 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016

FOOD FOR THOUGHT was conceived as a collection of recipes and designed from the “bottom up”. The paintings evolved naturally out of the many sketches produced during the research I made of the various foods and cultures.

My technique was direct and low-tech — no collage, photo transfer, silkscreen or any other print technique used. It was simply oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas. The format and dimensions of the works were standardized at 130 x 97cm (51” x 38”), to give the series the feel of an illustrated cookbook, and to underscore the basic equality between the cultures and foods represented.

I wish to add that I love cooking and eating and painting — which actually, in fact, have a lot in common. I have tried to season this highly subjective series with a pinch of humor, and with all the joy and love I have for the diversity of Europe and its cultures. Bruce Thurman, June 2017



J’ai conçu FOOD FOR THOUGHT comme une série de recettes, peintes de “bas en haut”. Les nombreuses esquisses faites pendant l’étape de recherche de ce travail sur la culture culinaire se sont transformées progressivement en tableaux.

J’ai choisi une technique directe et low-tech : pas de collage, de photo transfert, de sérigraphie ni de technique spéciale d’impression. Je n’ai employé que de la peinture à l’huile, de la peinture acrylique et du fusain sur toile. J’ai privilégié un format identique de 130 sur 97 cm pour chaque tableau, afin de donner à la série l’uniformité d’un livre de cuisine et aussi pour mettre en avant une certaine égalité entre les cultures culinaires représentées.

Mes trois passions : cuisiner, peindre et... manger ont plus en commun qu’il n’y paraît. J’ai donc essayé d’assaisonner ce travail très subjectif d’un brin d’humour, d’une pincée d’humour et d’y ajouter tout l’amour que j’ai pour la diversité culturelle européenne. Bruce Thurman, juin 2017

## Curriculum Vitæ

Bruce Thurman was born in Chicago in 1948. He studied Architecture at the University of Illinois and at L'Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He worked as an architect in Chicago, southern France and New York until 1981, when he moved to Paris to devote himself full time to painting. Since 2008 he divides his time between his studios in Paris and New York.

### Exhibitions

- |      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 2018 | European Economic and Social Committee (EESC - Europa EU) exhibition in lobby - Brussels Nov - Dec 2018<br>Galerie Soleil sur la Place - Franck Lassagne Lyon April - May 2018<br>Raven Gallery, Aspen, Co - Feb 2018 | 2005 | Galerie Carl van Brunt, Beacon, New York<br>Van Brunt Gallery, Beacon, New York<br>Michel Gamard, Lyon |
| 2017 | Galerie Victor Sfez, Paris Sep 2017<br>Le Consul' Art Show (represented the USA), Marseilles June 2017<br>Raven Gallery, Aspen, Co<br>Galerie Le Soleil sur la Place, Lyon  | 2004 | Rob van den Doel Gallery, The Hague<br>Caroline Berger, Manoir du Mad Galerie, Metz                    |
| 2016 | Palais de L'Archevêché, Arles<br>Le Consul' Art Show (represented the USA), Marseilles June 2016<br>Raven Gallery, Aspen, Co<br>THE LYINC, Lyon   | 2003 | Michel Gamard, Lyon  |
| 2015 | Pismo Fine Art Gallery, Denver, Co<br>LivingWithArt, New York, NY<br>ManArt Galerie, Paris  | 2002 | Frank Sciame, New York , NY<br>Annie Wable Gallery, Lille  |
| 2014 | Pismo Fine Art, Aspen, Co<br>Acqua Art Fair, Miami - LivingWithArt<br>Gallery Michele Gagne, New York, NY<br>The Affordable Art Fair, New York, NY  | 2000 | Minke Lipsch Hulsberg Gallery, Maastricht  |
| 2013 | Le Clos Lutaine, Cour Cheverny<br>ManArt Galerie, Paris   | 1999 | Akka Gallery, Paris<br>Annie Wable Gallery, Boulogne-sur-Mer   |
| 2012 | Pismo Fine Art, Aspen, Co<br>Expo Le Chateau Vigneau, Lyon  | 1997 | Lydon Fine Arts Gallery, Chicago<br>Annie Wable Gallery, Boulogne-sur-Mer                              |
| 2011 | O.K. Harris Works of Art, New York , NY   | 1992 | Nicole Schuermans Gallery, Roermond  |
| 2009 | Sofa New York, New York , NY<br>The Affordable Art Fair, New York , NY<br>Living With Art Gallery, New York , NY<br>Galerie Modus, Paris  | 1991 | Michel Gamard, Lyon<br>Kikkerburg Gallery, Roermond  |
| 2008 | Sofa Chicago, Chicago, Illinois<br>Sofa New York, New York , NY   | 1989 | Jean-Luc Ormières, Paris   |
| 2007 | Galerie Rollebeek, Brussels<br>Etienne & Van Den Doel, Oisterwicj<br>Espace Pernelles, Paris<br>Hotel D'Aultane, Valreas<br>Galerie La Passerelle, IUFM, Rouen<br>Exposition Ohe En Laak                              | 1988 | Kikkerburg Gallery, Roermond   |
| 2006 | Exposition Retrospective Atelier, Paris<br>Lyon & Lyon Fine Art, New Orleans  | 1986 | Kikkerburg Gallery, Roermond   |
|      |   | 1985 | Kikkerburg Gallery, Roermond   |

### Film Posters

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|------|--|
| 1999 | Inséparables by Michel Couvelard                                       |
| 1995 | The Pillow Book by Peter Greenaway                                     |
| 1993 | Moi Ivan, Toi Abraham by Yolande Zauberman                             |
| 1993 | Couples et Amants by John Lvoff  |
| 1992 | Quartier Mozart by Jean-Pierre Bekolo                                  |
| 1992 | Retour à Howard's End by James Ivory                                   |
| 1991 | Jusqu'au Bout du Monde by Wim Wenders                                  |
| 1990 | Tilai de Idrissa Ouedraogo<br>La Captive du Désert by Raymond Depardon |
| 1989 | Le Cuisinier, le Voleur, sa Femme et son Amant by Peter Greenaway      |
| 1988 | La Bohème by Luigi Commencini  |

