

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



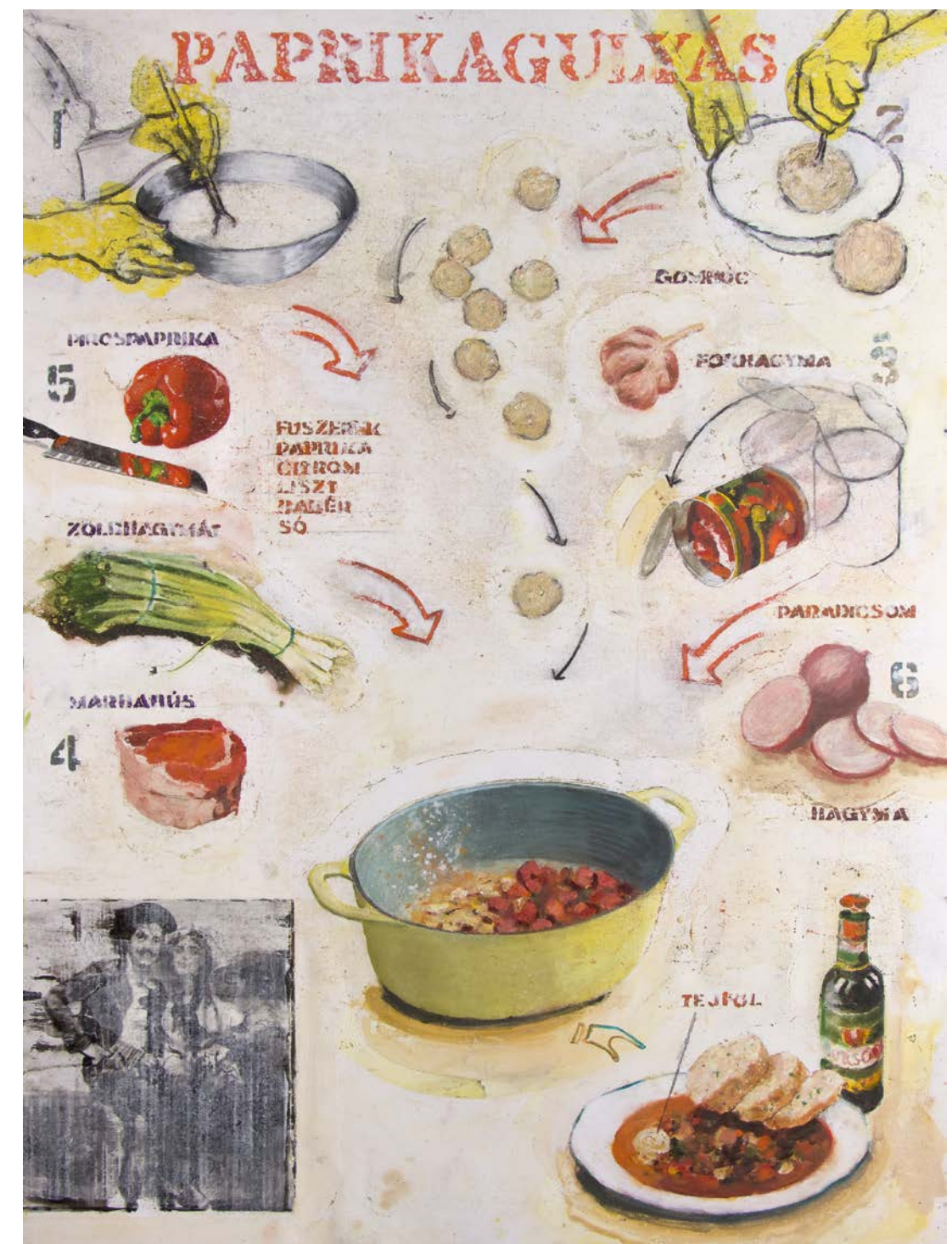
Bouillabaisse 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2016



Pizza 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



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



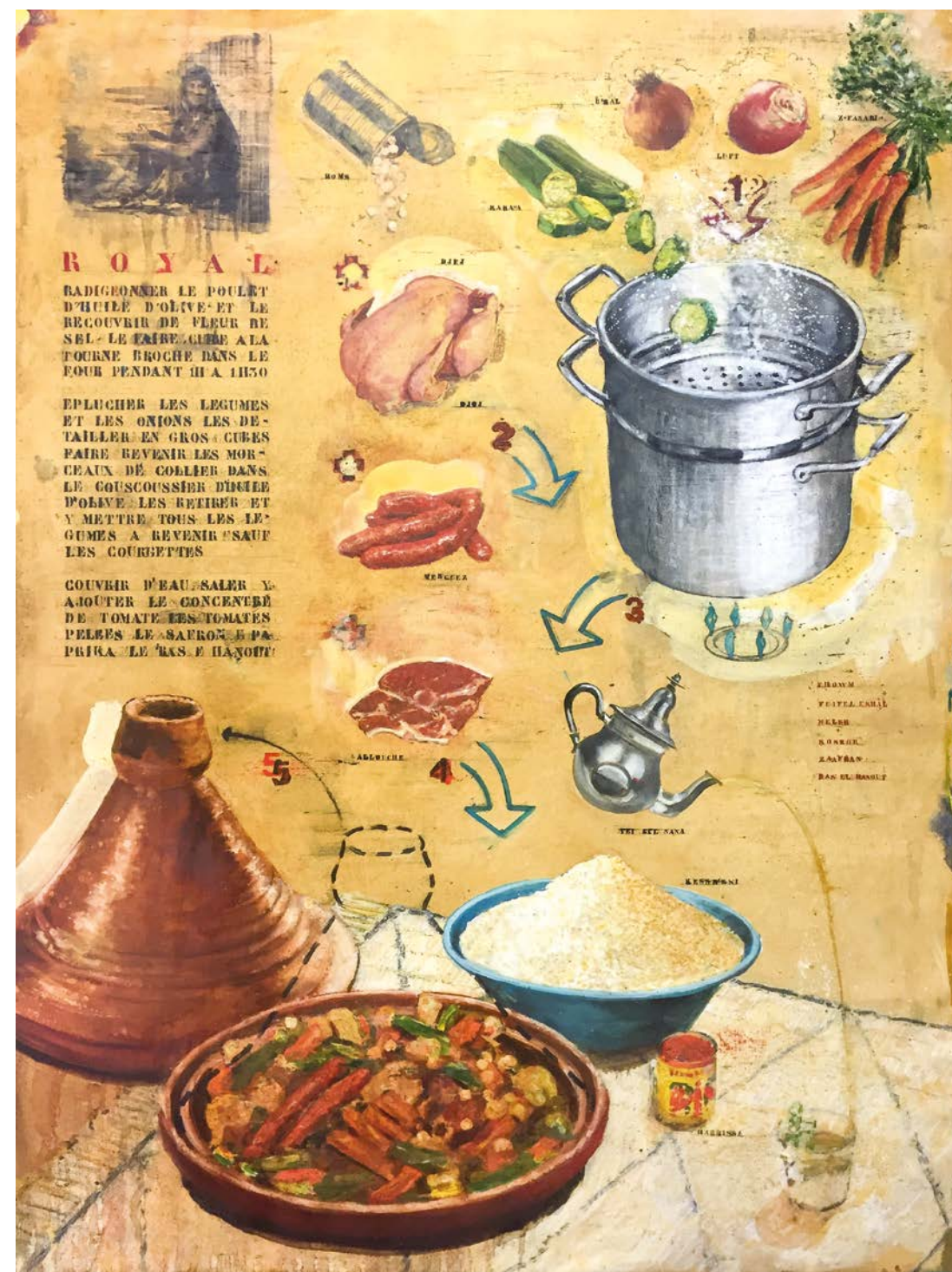
Gulyás (Goulash) 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



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



Bacalhau 130 x 97 cm - oil on canvas - 2017



Balkan / Mediterranean 130 x 97 - 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

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

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

Film Posters

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 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

