



## **The Art and Politics of Eating - Proposal for an Exhibition on and with Food**

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Since 2008, Canadian-British artist and filmmaker Zev Robinson has been directing a series of documentaries on the relationship between food, wine, agriculture and sustainability in Spain. Screenings of the films in Spain, London, NY and California have been combined with wine tastings and talks about questions of rural life and food production raised by the films.

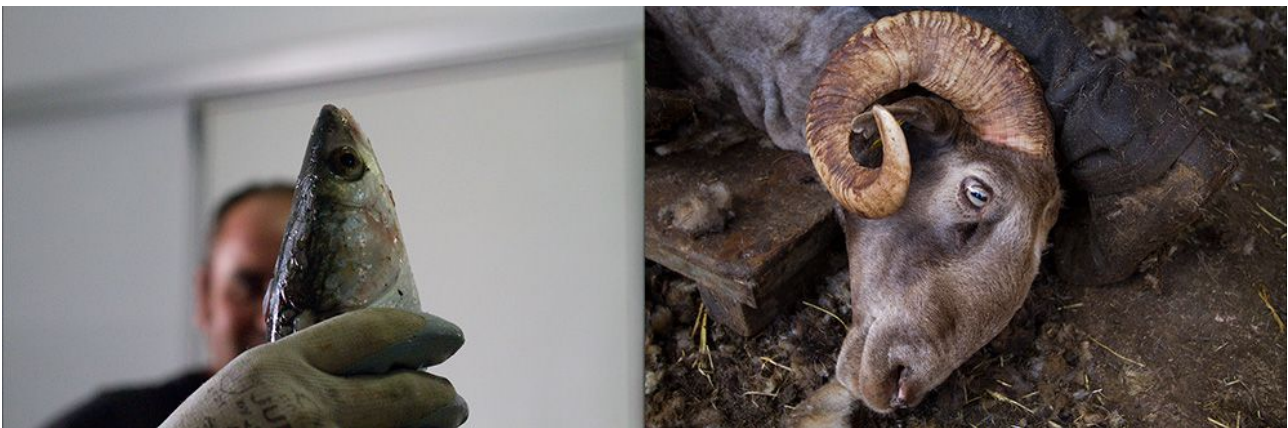
The films are now to be combined with photographs by Albertina Torres [www.albertinatorres.com](http://www.albertinatorres.com) and Robinson's paintings on similar themes, along with wine and food tastings in a scalable art project called The Art and Politics of Eating, bringing a greater focus on the questions of sustainability of our food and ecosystems while looking at the nature of art and art forms and their relationship to our lives.

The exhibition will feature a series of events including film screenings followed by wine and food tastings and discussions about the issues presented in the documentaries.



In collaboration with local chefs, caterers and Spanish restaurants, tapas and sit down meals would be consumed surrounded by art, photography and video installations that give the experience a cultural and geographical context – the faces, hands, toil and plants and animals that enable us to eat.

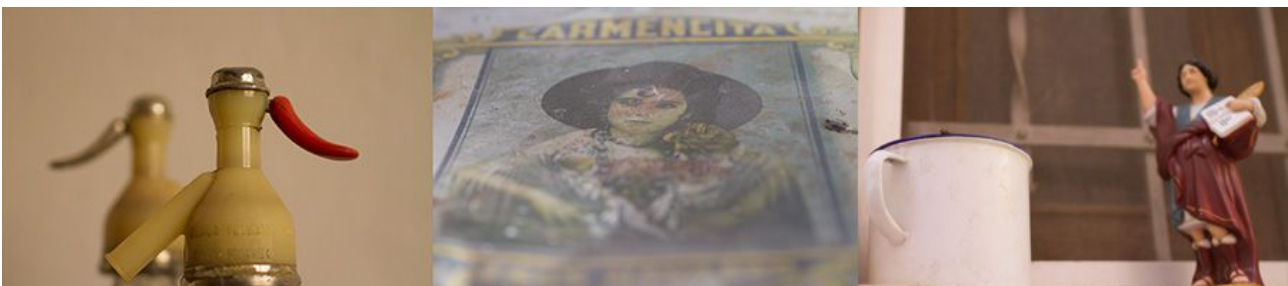
Traditionally, it has always been that way when people produced their own food, and only in modern urban life have the two – food and agriculture – been separated. The Art and Politics of Eating is an experience in bringing the two back together. It may be somewhat disconcerting to some, but it is a thought provoking experience and glimpse into a reality to which urban living makes us oblivious. It also examines the relationship between painting, photography, video and food as media, as culture and as art forms.



Food has historically been the focus and inspiration for much art, including that of Zev Robinson over the last three decades. As part of this project, he has started a new series of paintings of still lifes with food, people eating, and farmers in the fields, with references to Hopper, Van Gogh and Goya as well as film noir imagery that has long been a source for his work.

Albertina Torres' started "The Spanish Notebooks" project on the relationship between rural life, agriculture and food in January, 2012 while traveling with Robinson on filming trips. It is composed of a series of photographs on various themes of faces, hands, animals, food, farming, festivals and objects related to rural life, and the production and preparation of food from farmers to tapas bars and top restaurants.

The Art and Politics of Eating breaks down the boundaries that have separated agriculture from food, as well as art from its subject matter by bringing food back into the art project and giving it a central role. The experience is multi-sensory, with the food giving the taste of the land that people see in the art works, while the art brings provides a deeper awareness of the nature of what they are eating.





## Support and Collaboration

This project is getting support and interest from various sectors. We are collaborating with some members of SlowFood, as well as Spanish government institutions, wineries, wine importers and restaurants.

We are now looking for galleries and other spaces and venues to use as installations, and want to show The Art and Politics of Eating internationally. The project is flexible and scaleable to suit the site, and differs according to the the chefs and caterers with whom we collaborate.

## Links

Interview with Zev Robinson on 3QuarksDaily -

<http://www.3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2013/09/arribes.html#more>

Article on Arribes: Everything Else is Noise in Spanish newspaper El Mundo (English translation) -

<http://zevrobins.com/arribes-this-is-also-the-future/>

Article on Albertina Torres' photography in La Revista magazine -

[http://issuu.com/amybell2/docs/web\\_issue\\_236](http://issuu.com/amybell2/docs/web_issue_236)

Film trailers -

Arribes: Everything Else is Noise - <https://vimeo.com/49137785>

Raices Valencianas [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGm77sp\\_fac](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGm77sp_fac)

Cultivating Tapas - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bliAtT3otCA>

Dinastia Vivanco - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oJ\\_NNWH10Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oJ_NNWH10Q)

La Bobal - <https://vimeo.com/3221371>

Albertina Torres photography - <http://www.albertinatorres.com/>

Zev Robinson art work - <http://zevrobins.com/art-work/>

Zev Robinson CV - <http://zevrobins.com/art/files/zr%20bio%20cv%20eng.pdf>

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