

Invitation to participate in the first edition of the Symmetric Cooking Book

Each human group builds strong social and symbolic relations through the careful combination of taste, smell, texture, sound and thought which can be found in its diverse food universes: every day, in each bite of food, we live our double condition of cultural and biological beings.

Ramiro Delgado Salazar (2001)

Food is far more than nutritional matter. From ancient times it has been wrapped in rituals, prescriptions and recipes. The recurring flavors, recipes and food display constitute part of the identity of our culture.

On the other hand, symmetry deals with order and proportion, helping us to see different degrees of sameness. It is strongly linked to food preparations and presentations which change in diverse regions and historical moments.

We consider that the connection between food and symmetry is a very interesting relation to explore. In order to do so, we are inviting you to contribute in the creation of an ebook of Symmetrical Cooking, to be presented in the next conference of ISIS-Symmetry.

We have defined two areas of participation: Recipes and Presentations. The following list should explain it better:

A- Recipes

Recipes organize ingredients through their rules and proportions, but they are much more than a set of prescriptions. They are usually passed on through family or friends, but they can also originate in a random encounter in a magazine, book or other. You can include these or other stories with the recipe.

A.1. Proportions and recipes: There are many recipes that include special proportions of ingredients. For instance, to make a meringue, you should beat egg whites with sugar in a rate 1:3

A.2. Recipes with potatoes as a leading ingredient

Even if potatoes have a South American origin, they have become an integral part of the world food. By sharing recipes with potatoes as its main ingredient we will be able to verify equivalences and differences of their preparation, use and associations in diverse cultures.

A.3. Traditional recipes

There is some food that is linked to Independence Day celebration that is traditional in each country. With an isometric cultural event we would like to get to know the local differences.

A.4. Other contributions that somehow link cooking and symmetry. For example, we have encountered rhyming recipes [1]. These obviously connect order and metrics in its explanation.

B. Presentations

There are different traditions in food presentations:

B.1. Individual preparations, such as cakes

B.2. Organizations in trays or plates.

Some specifications:

-This will be an online ebook.

- As we hope to have contributions from different countries, we ask you to send your contribution in English. However we encourage you to send it in your native language as well.

- We include a template regarding fonts, images, references formats and other specifications, so as to give unity to this collaborative production. You can download it from this link:

<http://www.sema.org.ar/downloads/TemplateSymmetricCooking.docx>

Please send your contribution to cocinasimetrica@gmail.com before June 1st, 2016

References:

Delgado Salazar, Ramiro. (2001). *Comida y cultura: identidad y significado en el mundo Contemporáneo*. Estudios de Asia y África, XXXVI enero-abril, 83-108.

Notes:

[1] See <https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/html/1807/4350/poem2746.html>