

# Re/flecting the Border

## The Body Politic & the Dissolution of Citizenship

Margarita Certeza Garcia & Alexandra Rebello Camara



### Introduction:

This event consists of a boundary-crossing performance and academic talk, combining research, art and food to provoke discussion and thought around the topics of boundaries, citizenship and borders. Our concern, as an urbanist-artistic-architectural-performance team is the dissolving nature of Borders and citizenship and the negative impact on the body politic. The work opens questions around the nature of art, citizenship and border crossing, presented in an experimental, thoughtful and experiential way.

### Methodology: Or How Does This Function?

The dinner will begin with a short introduction (15 min) of the research and methods that have gone into the creation of this piece for the past 3 years, starting with a review of our research on citizenship, integration and Borders around both Europe and the US. We will then explain what leads us to work through artistic means and then serve a four course performative dinner that is designed to provoke discussion. This dinner has been particularly designed and curated for the *Dissolving Boundaries* Conference. Each course will address relevant themes as follows:

#### Introduction

*15 Minute talk on the Dissolution of Citizenship and the Impact of the Border:  
Why Art as a Cross-Disciplinary Strategy*

#### *Dissolving Cocktail*

Served in tiny test tubes and using 'pop rocks', a candy that makes noise when consumed, the drink is designed to open questions about goods & services (and illegal goods) crossing Borders easily while people are increasingly tracked, surveilled, denied and incarcerated.

#### *Migration Appetizer (Vegan)*

Tiny Bamboo Boats filled with a multicultural Asian/Latin American offering of miniature blue corn tamales with a Thai coconut sauce, mushrooms and a seaweed sail.

#### *The Body Politic – the Main Course*

A Syrian Spiced Turkey and Cauliflower encased and baked in clay in the shape of a pregnant woman. Guests will need to literally break into the clay with hammers, search through the rubble for their food and eat with their hands on banana leaves. Served with Syrian rice.

#### *Devouring the Young for Dessert*

White chocolate sculpted babies hanging on a dead tree. Can be served with restorative Haitian spiced hot chocolate.

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### History:

From 2016- 2018, over 5000 people participated in and performed at Re/flecting the Border dinners. Originally funded by an IFA artist's grant at the US/Mexico Border wall, it was also invited to *Tear Down This Wall with the Dresden Sinfoniker*, the workshop *Nueva Tijuana: Infrastructure for Migrants* at the Universidad Iberoamericana, funded by the Bauhaus Research School through the IPID4all / Welt Raum Bauhaus program. Part of *Tunnel Below, Skyjacking Above: Deconstructing the Border* at ngbk Berlin it was widely featured in international media, including *Kunstforum* and German public radio on *Deutschlandfunkkultur*.

### Date and venue:

5 July 2018 - 7.30pm

Galerie Eigenheim - Asbacherstraße 1 in Weimar

### How to participate:

Please register on our website [www.uni-weimar.de/boundaries](http://www.uni-weimar.de/boundaries) for the dinner. The place is limited to 30 participants. Drinks are on self expenses!