

## Feasting

Feasting, celebrating, partying and dining out can take place in a variety of contexts, each of which will determine the setting, the lighting, the kind of utensils and props employed and the food and drink consumed. It will also influence the ambience you wish to create and the music that supports it, as well as the instruments used. For example a Sushi Bar would not look or feel the same as a Medieval Castle or a Parisian cafe. These differences give opportunities to offer a variety of experiences possibly never enjoyed by clients before.

Things to consider:

- Setting the scene is very important. This can be done with particular lighting - bright fluorescent, candlelit, subdued, or coloured. Use furniture that goes with the theme, perhaps wooden tables and chairs, or picnic blankets, modular steel or plastic. If these are hard to find, cover what you have with appropriate cloths
- Using costume helps to give a 'look' to the whole event and encourage individuals to feel part of a group.
- Props and utensils - again, relate these to the setting you are trying to create. Wooden utensils and wood or iron pans, bowls and containers will give a very different experience to shiny silver bowls and chopsticks for example. Include as many different shapes, sizes and textures as possible to give a wide range of options for pouring, rolling around, stacking and making sounds. Paper plates could be decorated by clients with paint or stickers.
- Relate the 'consumables' to the environment you are creating. This will give many options for experiencing a variety of tastes, textures and sound possibilities i.e. chestnuts and pumpkins, rice and noodles, cheese and French bread, all offer different tastes, ways of pouring, making sounds, rolling around in containers.
- Characters can be used to help sustain the atmosphere of the 'feast' - a king/queen to head the table, waiters to serve or a puppet (appropriate to the theme) to engage with individuals and introduce an element of fun (or danger!)
- An upbeat rhythmic section supported by music and instruments which complement the theme and represent the era and country in which the feast takes place, will encourage dancing and movement.

## Links

Rice (Prop)

Costume (Prop)

Movement (Activity)

Workshops - Macbeth, Marchand de Vin, Temping in Tokyo

## Videos

Macbeth Banquet

Chop chop chop

Jaunty waiter