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New Cookery as Idea-Dependent Art

It is commonly believed that food cannot be art. That is, food is not regarded as a proper artistic medium. Such view has been undermined by Elisabeth Telfer and Carolyn Korsmeyer. They argued that food can be an art form, however, only a minor and simple one. The aim of my paper is to make a step further and argue that food can, under some circumstances, be a full-blooded form of art. To do so, I analyze a recently emerged phenomenon in the contemporary gastronomy called 'new cookery'. By referring to culinary practice it is shown that new cookery meets the all criteria for being a major art form. As a result, the serious affinity between conceptual art and new cookery is highlighted. Finally, I suggest that new cookery is a kind of art which might be labelled as 'idea-dependent art'.