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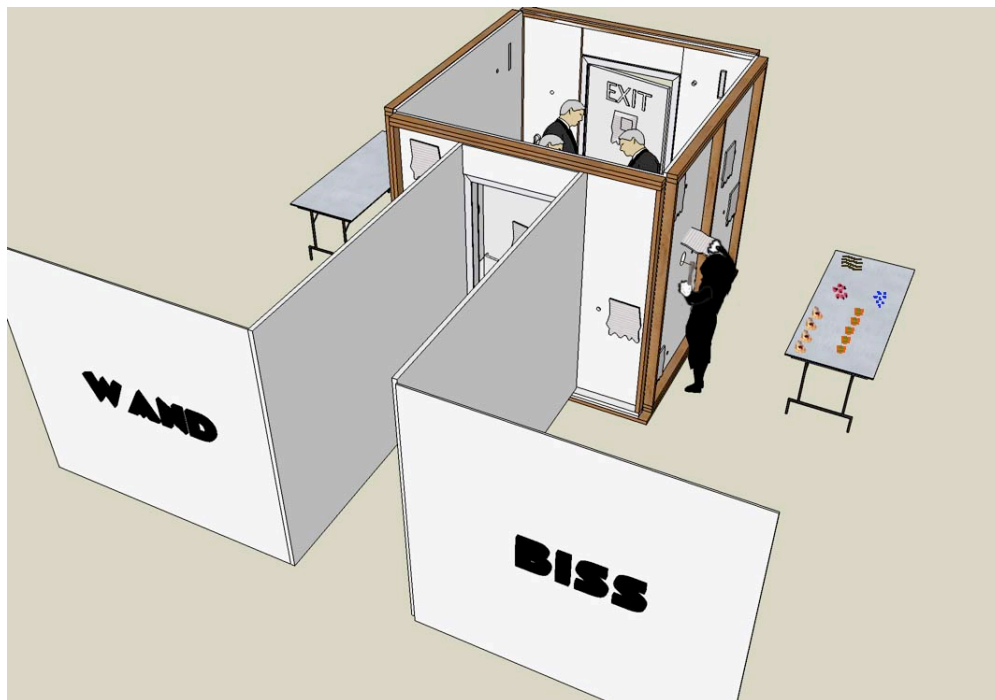
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## WANDBISS

### Michael Portnoy

Bite food as it pops out of the walls!

WANDBISS is an installation, restaurant and living arcade game. Guests make reservations, and 5 at a time are led into a shiny white room where gourmet bites pop out from various holes.



#### Specifications:

The "biting room" is a 2.4 meter cube.

Walls are white opaque plexiglass attached to a simple wooden frame. It is bright inside.

Holes of different shapes and sizes are laser cut into the walls to serve as "feedholes".

Near each feedhole is a small peephole, with a little viewer like those in apartment doors, enabling the feeders to see in.

On the exterior of the walls, plastic flaps are attached in front of the feedholes with magnets at the bottom as closures.

A team of at least 3 feeders bring WANDBISS to life. They are dressed in sanitary black body suits with white plastic gloves.

Different miniature gourmet hors d'oeuvres ("bites"), designed by artist **Marianne Vitale**, are delivered through the holes in every wall and even dropped from the ceiling. Guests are told not to use their hands.

Bites pop out and drop in a little mechanical ballet. Sometimes the feeders tease the guests, poking food in, then retracting it at the last second.

Most bites are speared or supported on edible utensils (vegetables, breadsticks, etc.) so the guests may bite quickly without breaking their teeth. Ceiling bites are lowered on bean noodle threads, or strands of seaweed.

Either white fabric or sheetrock walls form a corridor leading to the entry door.

Once inside, guests have 10 minutes to bite the food that pops out of the walls.

At the end of their biting session, the feeders ring a little bell, and the exit sign over the exit door flashes.

The feeders clean the inside of the room to prepare for the next session.

**(Optional)** After their session, they walk around the exterior of the box and can see behind the scenes.

## **Michael Portnoy**

Michael Portnoy / XAR is a New York based multimedia artist, performer, musician, and director of behavior. He has presented work extensively in NY in such venues as: P.S. 1/MOMA, The Kitchen, P.S. 122, Movement Research at The Judson Church, EFA Gallery, Deitch Gallery, White Box, Canada Gallery, ACE Gallery, The Knitting Factory, Little Theater, The Grammy Awards at Radio City Music Hall, As Four fashion shows and the washroom at Schiller's; and internationally at Foksal Gallery Foundation (Warsaw), Kaaitheater (Brussels), migros museum (Zurich), Le Comfort Moderne (Poitiers, France), Kling & Bang Gallery (Reykjavik) and The National Review of Live Art (Glasgow). Michael recently opened Session - a private salon on Manhattan's Lower East Side devoted to the exploration of social exchange as an art form. He has worked with choreographers ChameckiLerner, Maria Hassabi, Koosil-Ja Hwang, and Scott Heron, with artist Claude Wampler and musician Pete Drungle.

