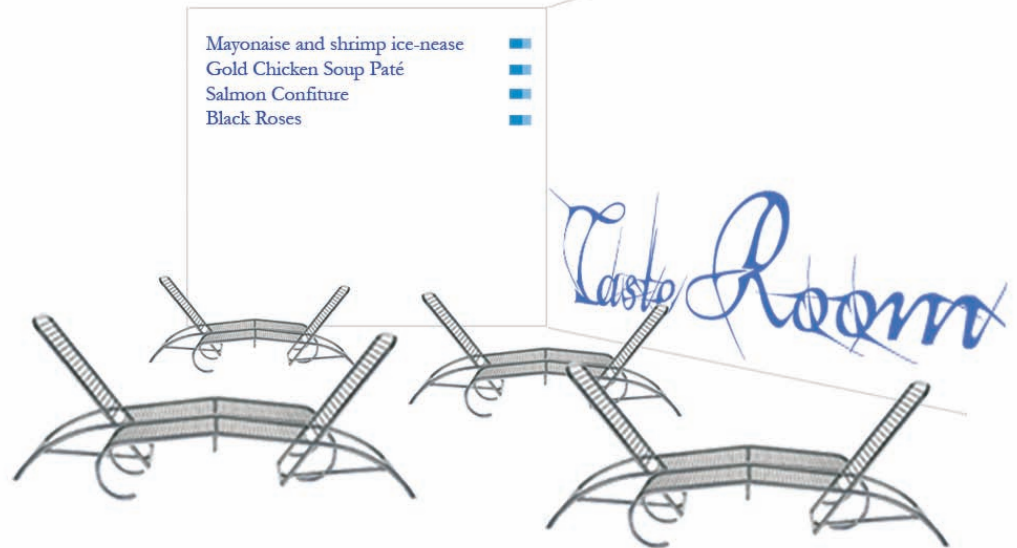




Taste-Room Jana Leo New York 10.26.05



### Social (and eating) -the room

Eating alone can still be a ritual, but it takes (at least) two to be social. The table is a frame for social interaction. It is the place for resting and for conversation, diners face each other, the food is shared around the table. The table provides the base for the cutting and division of the food.

Why eat at a table when the food doesn't need any handwork? If every bit of food is edible ( there is no waste) and if no cutting is necessary and minimal physical effort is required to transport the food to the mouth, then there is no need for the table as working base.

Unlike the typical restaurant experience, which places the table between diners, my proposal is "chair-centered" and uses a specific style of chair: the chaise lounge (or day bed).

A pair of chaises will be arranged parallel to each other, in opposite directions, so the diners will face each other. This condition creates a bubble that frame close and daydream interac-tions. The chaise lounge resemblance a body lay down at the sun. Many restaurants have big windows, or in summer the windows are open; the restaurant is treated as an "outdoor" space (public, in the sense of open to the view) while being indoors (for weather reasons).



Charlotte Perriand's postwar furniture displayed in the exhibition Synthesis of the Arts, Takashimaya department store, Tokyo, 1955.



Chaise longue by René Herbst, France, 1931.