



Off Menu – Ep 183 – Motsi Mabuse

Ed Gamble

Welcome to the Off Menu podcast. Taking the burger of great chat, squirting in ketchup of humour but not before removing the gherkins of evil.

James Acaster

Ed Gamble there, opening the podcast in quite a controversial I would say. I'd say that that would be the earliest that some listeners have gone, 'What? The gherkins are the best bit.

Ed Gamble

Yes. No, I agree with the listener.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

But I know some people don't like gherkins.

James Acaster

Some people don't like them so it's very nicely done.

Ed Gamble

I love gherkins.

James Acaster

I love them. I'm a gherkin boy. This is where we both agree.

Ed Gamble

We're both gherkin jerkins.

James Acaster

We're gherkin jerkins make no misterkin. That is Ed Gamble, my name is James Acaster, this is the Off Menu podcast. We invite a guest into our dream restaurant and we ask them their favourite ever starter, main course, dessert, side dish and drink. Not in that order. And this week our guest is Motsi Mabuse.

Ed Gamble

Motsi Mabuse. A professional dancer.

James Acaster

A professional dancer.



Ed Gamble

A judge on Strictly.

James Acaster

An incredible judge on Strictly. My favourite judge on Strictly. No shade to the others-

Ed Gamble

No shade to the others.

James Acaster

Because it's a very closely run contest. A lot of the time the judges have to say to the celebrities, 'This is such a tough decision. It's so close.'

Ed Gamble

Yes. And that's what you're saying as a judge of the judges.

James Acaster

Yes. I'm splitting hairs here but Motsi, I'm afraid, the other two judges, she is my favourite.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Yes, she's brilliant. I can't wait to chat to her. Also, author.

James Acaster

Yes. Finding My Own Rhythm by Motsi Mabuse is out now. It's her story. It's her life story. There's so much in there from, like, winning dance competitions all round the world to becoming a Strictly judge living in South Africa, Germany. I mean-

Ed Gamble

What a life.

James Acaster

Such a life.

Ed Gamble

Such a life.

James Acaster

Such a life.

Ed Gamble

And you know what, we can't wait to have a little bit of an insight into that life through food. That's the show.



James Acaster

Yes. That's the show sometimes. Sometimes, you know, on our good days the show is a tour through people's life via food. On the bad days it's stories about poo and wee.

Ed Gamble

It's nonsense as well.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. So, we'll see where this one goes. We love Motsi Mabuse but if Motsi says the secret an ingredient, an ingredient which we deem to be unacceptable, we will have to through Motsi Mabuse out the Dream restaurant-,

Ed Gamble

Are you all right mate?

James Acaster

I just burped.

Ed Gamble

You better keep that in when Motsi's on.

James Acaster

Oh, listen, by the time Motsi comes in here, I'm keeping on top of it.

Ed Gamble

Okay. You're a fan. You're actively a fan.

James Acaster

I'm a massive fan. I'm not burping in front of Motsi Mabuse. An you better tame that stomach as well when she's in here.

Ed Gamble

Oh, God I don't know. I better eat something.

James Acaster

Yes, eat something. But this week the secret ingredient is, microwaved vegetables. Now, this has been suggested by a listener?

Ed Gamble

No. Me.

James Acaster

That's a good suggestions, well done.



Ed Gamble

Thanks.

James Acaster

I was going to give full props to the listener for that but turns out that was you.

Ed Gamble

I think there's probably some versions of it that work fine but every microwaved vegetable I've had in the past, so sad. You've got to put a hole in the bag, put it in the microwave.

James Acaster

Soggy.

Ed Gamble

Soggy, horrid no flavour.

James Acaster

No flavour. soggy, sad. I'd rather have any other type of prepared vegetable.

Ed Gamble

How are you doing your veg at home James?

James Acaster

Well, that's a good question Ed. The other day I fried up some asparagus.

Ed Gamble

Sure.

James Acaster

You know, if I'm going to do some broccoli I'd roast it. Very rarely do I boil veg now. It used to be my go to when I first moved out of the Acaster hearth but now I will roast or fry my vegetables.

Ed Gamble

I'll griddle. I regularly griddle.

James Acaster

Wow, that's difference.

Ed Gamble

You came over recently and I did some charred broccoli.

James Acaster

Beautiful. Beautifully charred broccoli.



Ed Gamble

Just in a dry griddle pan and put another heavy pan on top of it for, like, five minutes, flip them, five minutes again. Beautiful.

James Acaster

I went on Claudia Winkleman's radio 2 show and she bought this up, I think expecting a rise out of me. She said, 'Ed Gamble came on this podcast. He said he was a much better chef than you. What do you say about that?' I was like, 'Yes'.

Ed Gamble

I think she backed me into that corner.

James Acaster

I said, 'Yes, he is'.

Ed Gamble

But I don't think that's true.

James Acaster

Well, for example, I said, 'When I was there last time he griddled some broccoli, did polenta for the first time and it was delicious and he slow cooked some beef cheeks and they were delicious and there's no way I'm doing any of that. Ever.

Ed Gamble

Look, you've got to have me over and I want some of the classics. Look, if you don't have me over for chorizo fucking broccoli pasta at some point, I'm going to kick the hell of.

James Acaster

Do you know what, yesterday I did. So, I hadn't made chorizo broccoli pasta in ages and I was really hungry in the evening and all we had was the ingredients for that because my girlfriend's took most of the ingredients for it.

Ed Gamble

That is mad, that you're like, 'Oh, we've got nothing in the house apart from all the ingredients for chorizo broccoli pasta'.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. Listen, when one of the only ingredients you've got in the house is a broccoli stump without the head, then, what's going on? But I didn't have the pasta. All I had was some noodles. So, I made some chorizo broccoli pasta with noodles.

Ed Gamble

Chorizo broccoli noodles.



James Acaster

Yes. And, it didn't not work. It didn't not work.

Ed Gamble

It didn't not work or it did not work?

James Acaster

It didn't not work.

Ed Gamble

It worked.

James Acaster

Well, it didn't work either. But it was a departure. I won't be doing it again-

Ed Gamble

Had noodles, broccoli. Surely you had some other things to maybe make, like, an East Asian style dish?

James Acaster

This is the thing. This is why you were right to say to Claudia you're a better cook then because I wouldn't have thought of that. I just thought, well I know how to make that-

Ed Gamble

Did you have garlic, did you have ginger, did you have soy?

James Acaster

No, no ginger. Soy, yes. Garlic, yes. Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Chilli? Any chilli?

James Acaster

Yes, yes, chilli. Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Really. You could have made, like, a really nice stir-

James Acaster

Pork, chicken, beef. Loads of stuff.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Well, chorizo broccoli noodles it is.



James Acaster

Yes. Had to be.

Ed Gamble

We're very excited to have Motsi in the Dream Restaurant to chat about food and a little chat about her book as well. This is the Off Menu menu of Motsi Mabuse.

Ed Gamble

Welcome Motsi to the Dream Restaurant.

Motsi Mabuse

Thank you.

James Acaster

Welcome Motsi Mabuse to the Dream Restaurant. We've been expecting you for some time.

Ed Gamble

What do you think of the genie?

Motsi Mabuse

I mean the explosion, that was a welcome. Usually when I get somewhere, there's always music. And, that jingle that follows me, 'Da, da, da.' So, I was like, it's something coming up now. That was perfect.

James Acaster

We should enter like that, like the judges do.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

And do a little shimmie, then sit down, you and me.

Ed Gamble

Can you shimmie?

James Acaster

I can do a little shimmie. the listeners can't appreciate. Or, I do what Anton-, Anton does a very classy, just like, just blows a kiss. Kind of, stands there and just does a-

Motsi Mabuse

Classic. Elegant.

James Acaster

Yes. Yes, whereas you 3 have to come up with a different move each time.



Motsi Mabuse

I mean, when the music plays you have to move. What else is there left to do. You know, and I can do that, you know. Anton is probably not allowing himself that freedom.

Ed Gamble

No, he's too rigid. He's too rigid, serious. He can only blow a kiss that guy.

Motsi Mabuse

Shame.

James Acaster

Do you have a go to move that you would do in that situation? When you hear your name?

Motsi Mabuse

I never plan anything. I just, whatever happens, happens. And, mostly it's the same, kind of, 'Okay, hey everyone.' Actually, you know what, I scream but thank God, I mean, everybody knows I scream but thank God that at that certain moment the mic is off because it always feel like, you know, that, 'Come on, let's get ready time'. And then I have to wake myself up. So, if the mic was on we'd all be in trouble.

Ed Gamble

I'd be terrified. Live TV, having to come up with a little shimmie to do. I don't know what I'd do. I'd fall over, my trousers would come down with it.

James Acaster

Well, it's the thing as well, I mean, yes, live TV and you're all having to, as the judges, give your thoughts on something you've just seen and one of the things that, I don't know, this is probably a boring thing to say, but I can't believe how none of you ever really say, 'Um' or 'Er'.

Motsi Mabuse

Don't we?

James Acaster

You just go straight. It's like you're reading straight of a script. You just do it, 'Bam'. And it's, like, things are so well thought out, observations and opinions about the dances. They're not faltering at any point. You're not going all over the shop.

Motsi Mabuse

Not at all. You know, I speak English and I speak German mostly. Like, I would say, 80% German and then 20% English but then I communicate with my daughter in English. So, I'm always translating everything and I'm always stressed out because my tongue has become so German. So, it feels like my tongue is a leather belt and I'm just softening it up and I'm just thinking, 'Do not make a mistake'. And



the worst part is that my South African brain still corrects me when I have done a mistake and I'm just like, 'It's too late'. You know. I can't change it. It's live TV. So, I'm always fighting that and in times of pressure I have slipped. I have spoken German but I'm just like, come on it's a continent, you're all here. Everybody understands a bit of German some where.

Ed Gamble

A bit if German, yes.

Motsi Mabuse

So, it's happened quite a few times and I hear what's going on with my tongue and I have that South African accent so it's a mess. It's a complete mess.

Ed Gamble

As someone who only speaks English, that is such a-, even a weird idea to imagine that you're talking about your South African brain and German tongue and having an internal dialogue about the languages and I'm just sat here, sometimes I can't even think in English.

James Acaster

No. Or speak in English.

Ed Gamble

No, yes. An absolute mess.

James Acaster

I can't do any of it. Just lucky to be here.

Motsi Mabuse

Well, the thing is, you all speak differently. Every time I'm in the country, I really have to concentrate. Some people, I just don't know. I'm just like, 'Are we speaking the same language?' I mean, there's a lot of accents here. Like, different types of-, I struggle with mostly-, like, on Strictly I really struggle with people that come from the North. I'm just, like, 'Can you please translate?' at this point. It's so strong and I just don't understand, really. I'm being honest. It's like, it starts with, 'Hello,' and then it's over. I'm, like, 'What?'

Ed Gamble

But the language of dance is universal.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. Definitely.

James Acaster

When Ajay Odudu was on it, was that quite difficult for you?



Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, okay.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, yes, yes. But there have been quite a few people from the north so I'm always asking Craig and stuff. And I'm just trying to, you know, understand and be positive. But it's not easy.

Ed Gamble

You're so clearly talented at picking up new languages that, you know, in a couple of years time you'll probably be speaking like you're from Leeds.

Motsi Mabuse

I don't know.

James Acaster

(talking over each other 10.57) could learn the Leeds dialect.

Motsi Mabuse

Well, with my team in my room, I always put on what I hear as the English accent. And I'll be just like, 'Hello everybody. How's everybody doing?' And they all laugh their asses off because they're just like, 'What is going on?' I was like, 'This is how it sounds to me. How everybody is speaking.'

James Acaster

Well, I mean you're sitting next to Craig for a lot of it who has a very posh English voice.

Motsi Mabuse

Darling. Cha cha cha. Yes, I know.

James Acaster

Your new book, Finding My Own Rhythm-,

Ed Gamble

Which, is it too late to call it South African Brain, German Tongue? We can change the title.

James Acaster

Change it to that, yes. Call it that.

Motsi Mabuse

You know, exciting.



Ed Gamble

What was it like writing it? Because, I mean, is this fair to say it's, like, a life story?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. Well, it was interesting because I had to look back again. Obviously, some things I had forgotten and while you're writing you remember certain things. I feel like it's a diluted version of the truth. Kind of, just making it readable because I think some of the stuff that really went on in South Africa in the dancing world is a little bit harsh and we don't want people to be scared. But, it's a, kind of, leading, giving a way for people to see how it was back then.

James Acaster

Because was it in South Africa you did the dance competitions as well and won them there?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

what's that like entering a-, because, like, I think Strictly looks stressful for the dancers. An actual dance competition must be even worse. i mean, that must be, like, crazy.

Motsi Mabuse

Well, you know, when you're young, I'm the one that wanted to dance so when you're young you go with it. I feel like it started to go crazy when you start to put pressure on yourself. So, the first one you're, like, 'Yes, I won. I'm the African champion'. And then it's all fun and then you-,

Ed Gamble

You say that like that was the first thing you did. You're like, 'Oh, I'm African champion. The African champion. I've never even danced before and here I am African champion'.

Motsi Mabuse

No, like, the first comp I won, I won 4, like, categories and I had 4 trophies. I mean, for my little brain at that time I'm, like, 'Wow'.

Ed Gamble

How old were you?

Motsi Mabuse

I was between, I would say, nine and eleven. And after, like, three months or something. So, you know, I was quite competitive in school with different things. I did running, swimming, I did, you know when you have debate? I did all of that stuff. But you got one gold star or something. But four at the same place. I'm like, 'This is home.' So, immediately I got stuck. I think it got worse later but in the beginning it was just lots of fun and discovering. Like, you want to wear the pretty dresses, your hair gets made up and all of that. It was nice.



James Acaster

And do you ever see, when you're judging on Strictly, you see a dance and you think, 'I could have done that when I was nine.'

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, well. It depends who's doing it. Some of the dancers I think I could have done that, you know, with a cloth in front of my eyes. No, I'm just joking. No, it depends, really. Some stuff, yes. I mean, they're beginners, right? They are people that never dance so it's okay but I have to say, this year, that the standard is high. Like, I'd have to start practising again.

James Acaster

This year and last year, they're very good.

Motsi Mabuse

Strong, Strong.

Ed Gamble

My favourite thing about watching Strictly is when there's, say, a less talented celebrity on dance wise and the composure that the professional dancers maintain during the dance when they're, say, just dragging someone around the floor basically or dancing around them. Just the absolute composure like the person they're with is also a profession dancer. I just think it's incredible.

James Acaster

Yes, Tony and Katya this year, one of my favourite things to watch ever.

Motsi Mabuse

I loved it. I absolutely loved it and, I mean, it's fun for us to watch as a professional in the week. Because I did the show in Germany as well and I had, let's say a kind of Tony Adams and the people loved it, they thought it was entertaining and the best part is that he was a great guy. So, we could sit and talk but my dancing brain, I had to just tell, 'Forget it.' Like, just make this about joy but all dancers, I think most dancers are quite competitive so the hard part is telling your own ego and your own competitive side, 'Chill, this is not going to be-, And, what you learn later, this is entertainment. So, Katya and Tony never won but, I mean, they were vibing, they gave an energy that we will all never ever forget. So, it's something that, you know, you impress for a while. Some couples were really good but you've already forgotten them. We won't forget them, I mean-,

Ed Gamble

No, for sure.

Motsi Mabuse

Hopefully we won't. We won't forget some of the moves, let's say that.



James Acaster

Are you a big food fan? Before we get into your dream menu?

Motsi Mabuse

I love food. I mean, I do look like I love food don't I. I love food. I just think that if you have that opportunity, it's a pleasure of life so, I enjoy.

James Acaster

I mean, don't tell us any of your choices yet but we're going to have some different world cuisines in there maybe from where you live now, from where you grew up.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, I try a lot but not too much. Like, I've been to Vietnam where I, kind of, also have to step out. I'm like, 'Okay, go ahead husband, you do that. I'll watch. I'll have chicken.' Do we have chicken?

James Acaster

What dishes in particular?

Motsi Mabuse

Oh man I've seen it all. I have seen it all on a plate and my husband's like, 'Come on, try it out.' And I'm just like, 'No.' I mean, I'm brave but not that brave. Like, really, honestly, I've seen it all. We've been to markets in Vietnam where you, kind of, choose what you eat and yes, you can imagine. And people have fun.

James Acaster

Ed would love it.

Ed Gamble

I would love-, I love all of that, yes.

James Acaster

He's straight in.

Ed Gamble

I'm very much similar to your husband it sounds like. Yes, if there's something new to try, especially if people will be impressed or disgusted that I did it, absolutely. I'm a show off.

James Acaster

He loves that reaction.

Motsi Mabuse

And have you been to Vietnam?



Ed Gamble

Never been to Vietnam. I should go.

Motsi Mabuse

You do that. Yes.

Ed Gamble

What are we talking? Weird animals?

Motsi Mabuse

Like, animals with-, like, sea animals also that I haven't ever seen. Don't know where the orientation-, I think they're from the sea, so. Yes, and sauces and spices. That I appreciate. I appreciate, you know, there's something different or I appreciate eating something here and then trying it out in China or in Japan and saying, 'Oh, it tastes completely different.' Or Thailand. I love Thai food. So, it's just that I, kind of, have to recognise what I'm eating.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Something from the sea that you've encountered before, yes.

James Acaster

But not that literal one before.

Ed Gamble

No, no.

James Acaster

You're not going to recognise him and go-,

Ed Gamble

Oh David.

James Acaster

Oh no it's David. Yes, yes, you don't want that.

Motsi Mabuse

Not that part.

Ed Gamble

That's when I wouldn't eat it, if I was like, 'I've met that guy.'

Motsi Mabuse

Guys, are we still talking about food?



James Acaster

Well, let's start with your dream menu, we always start with still or sparkling water.

Motsi Mabuse

Sparkling. Still water is death guys.

Ed Gamble

Oh wow, that's fairly contrary to what a lot of people would say.

James Acaster

Yes, a lot of people have come in. They really hate sparkling water.

Ed Gamble

Sparkling water is the Strictly of waters though, isn't it? Effervescent, exciting.

James Acaster

I guess, but then I would imagine that if you were dancing, you would want a still water to quench your thirst rather than a sparkling.

Motsi Mabuse

Well, in the good times when I have a choice, it's always sparkling. Or if I'm working out or something like that, I have still water. But, it's always sparkling. I drank still water all my life. Like, all my life and I just, can not. It feels like a step back. No, I can't. I have to enjoy it. Come on, let's be honest, water is nice when you're thirsty. Like, we drink water because we have to, the body needs it. If we had a choice, we would not drink water. I mean, the choices of taste.

Ed Gamble

I quite like, I don't mind it. Yes. Sometimes I'll sit down for a nice glass of water.

Motsi Mabuse

But look.

Ed Gamble

To be fair I do have three drinks in front of me. Coffee, diet coke and water.

Motsi Mabuse

That's the thing, you have a choice and this is the healthy choice. We drink it for health.

James Acaster

Yes. I mean, you do know that there is someone, one of the Strictly team, who doesn't ever drink water.

Motsi Mabuse

Really? Who? Giovanni?



James Acaster

No. Actually, this would be a fun guessing game. Giovanni, no. I think Giovanni drinks water.

Motsi Mabuse

Is it a dancer?

James Acaster

No.

Motsi Mabuse

Then it's Anton.

James Acaster

No.

Motsi Mabuse

Craig.

James Acaster

No.

Motsi Mabuse

Shirley.

James Acaster

No.

Motsi Mabuse

Then who's left?

James Acaster

Claudia Winkleman.

Motsi Mabuse

She doesn't drink water?

James Acaster

She doesn't drink water. She thinks it's disgusting.

Motsi Mabuse

You see.



James Acaster

She thinks it's disgusting and she says she can't kiss her husband after he's drunk some water because she imagines he has a big swollen tongue full of water.

Motsi Mabuse

No, but it's a necessity because the body needs it but if we had a choice, we wouldn't drink water. We've got, you know, fizzy drinks, we've got coffee, we've got wine. We can go on.

James Acaster

Well, would you have something else for your water course then because now you do have a choice.

Motsi Mabuse

Sparkling water with a bit of lemon and ice.

James Acaster

Yes, bit of lemon and ice.

Motsi Mabuse

To start it off.

James Acaster

Crushed ice?

Motsi Mabuse

No. Just the cubes.

James Acaster

And would you agree with Ed that it's the Strictly of waters?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. It's great. It gives you life. It's something bubbling and you're like, 'Oh yes, it's not just plain old water. There is something happening.'

Ed Gamble

Strictly's a fizzy show.

James Acaster

It's a fizzy show.

Motsi Mabuse

We sparkle all the way.

Ed Gamble

Yes, exactly.



James Acaster

Everyone's sparkling.

Ed Gamble

As well as bubbles in your water, do you want some actual sparkles in there as well? We can put some glitter in your water for you.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow, that's never been offered. I will never say no to sparkles. How can I? How can I?

James Acaster

If we zoom in on all the little bubbles in your sparkling water, they all look like glitter balls. Like the Strictly disco balls.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Would you like that?

Ed Gamble

And one of them's got Tony Adams's face in it.

James Acaster

Tony Adams's face is reflected in the glitter ball with his top off.

Motsi Mabuse

This is the Strictly water. Yes.

James Acaster

You could advertise that.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. I will take everything for Strictly at this point.

James Acaster

I just realised, I'm meant to shout poppadoms. So, normally I shout poppadoms or bread.

Ed Gamble

This is great. This is the first time you've ever choked on it. Forgot.

James Acaster

And I literally had a burp come up as I was doing it.



Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow.

James Acaster

I mean, I don't want to admit that to you Motsi.

Ed Gamble

But you have.

James Acaster

But I have because I just completely ruined the timing off it, I basically suppressed the burp then looked at Ed with very guilty eyes that was like, I was just supposed to shout then. What didn't want to do is shout and burp at Motsi Mabuse and then be, like-,

Motsi Mabuse

Where am I?

James Acaster

That would be the left of my life, I would just be thinking about that.

Ed Gamble

Every time you watch Strictly from now on.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I burped at that lady.

James Acaster

Poppadoms or bread Motsi Mabuse, poppadoms or bread? Still got her.

Ed Gamble

Yes, good.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, you scared me. I'm surprised.

James Acaster

Even though you knew it was going to happen.

Motsi Mabuse

Bread guys. Always bread. Bread, bread, bread.



Ed Gamble

Any particular type of bread that you would like on your dream meal?

Motsi Mabuse

I mean we have, how do you call it in the UK? We have this vollkornbrot in German and it's, like, a dark bread. Healthy, nice, thick and then you have some butter on it. That's amazing when it's freshly done.

James Acaster

Warm.

Motsi Mabuse

Warm

Ed Gamble

The Germans do bread very well. A specific sort of bread, like, a heavy, really feels like you're having almost a full meal with every bite. Like, proper, yes, I love that stuff.

Motsi Mabuse

And, like, if you travel out of Germany, you, like, look for a bakery that's got German bread because they just-, and when you go to the bakery, the whole thing is bread and you're like, 'Okay, what am I going to eat today? What am I going to eat today?' Yes, they love bread.

James Acaster

You like a wide selection in your bread.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, a lot of selection.

James Acaster

Sorry, I don't know why you live in Germany.

Motsi Mabuse

Well, I live there because I landed there. Yes. I fell in love, moved to the country and then I was, like, 'Okay, it's just for a year.' And now it's been 22 years. So, I've adopted some German mentality and things.

Ed Gamble

What sort of things have you adopted?

Motsi Mabuse

I hate being late. Like, timing and I just also think you have to work. Like, the Germans work, work, work and follow rules. I'm quite like that in every perspective I would think. It's very low key. It's all



about, just, what is the function and it makes things comfortable and you know people will not step out of line. Like, you can rely, when they say 'We have on Wednesday the garbage, this garbage and this, and this goes to the plastic.' And you, kind of, feel like every neighbour does it and they're like, 'Look at the one African Ukrainian family in street.' And we be like, 'Okay.' So, things work because everybody just, really-, like, the bus comes on time and all of that. So, that's, kind of, the German things.

Ed Gamble

Maybe I'm German.

James Acaster

Yes, I like the sound of that. I think I might be German.

Ed Gamble

I like the sound of that. My dad lived in Germany for a bit and he loved it. He loved all of the different bins.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, and explaining that to South Africans when they visit. I'm just like, 'Oh my gosh.' And they think I'm crazy but they just have a system. The Germans have a system and I landed there, because it was quite safe, I felt safe. I was in the dance bubble and then, like, you can leave your bag in the car, you can leave your car open. Well, it depends probably where you live but it's just that sense of safety you had and coming from South Africa where you're just, like, ducking every single corner and then going to Germany and feeling like you could breathe. I think that's why I, kind of, felt, okay, I'm going to stay here for a bit to get used to not looking behind my back every time. That's weird. It is.

James Acaster

That is nice.

Motsi Mabuse

It is.

Ed Gamble

That must have taken some getting used to though, even just, like, leaving your bag in the car. I bet that blew your mind the first time you saw someone do it.

Motsi Mabuse

I mean, like, even in summer you'd go out of the car, forget to close the window.

James Acaster

I'm going to go to Germany and steal loads of bags.

Motsi Mabuse

You could.



Ed Gamble

Smart.

Motsi Mabuse

You could, you could. Definitely you could.

Ed Gamble

Also, even if the window was open that much, your arms are so noodly you could get through like Mr Tickle.

James Acaster

Yes, yes Mr Tickle.

Ed Gamble

Yes, like Mr Tickle.

James Acaster

Yes, like, a two dimensional-,

Motsi Mabuse

Slither in.

James Acaster

like Flat Stanley, yes. And get through there. Is it hard to suppress those German needs for rules and things being the way they are? Is it hard to suppress that on the panel at Strictly? Because you're quite a-, I'd say, of the four you and Anton are more laid back and generous. You laugh at Craig for being very strict. Craig is very strict and you're laughing your head off next to him.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, I laugh all the time because I know him privately and I can't, kind of, switch back enough. Because you need Craig and he's the sweetest. He's fun, he's so relaxed, we laugh a lot. So, when he comes on the show and it's Craig and then he does it, I'm always like, 'Man, didn't we just have a conversation five minutes ago? Who's this person?' So, I'm always laughing at that and obviously it's the very opposite of what I am. So, I told him, you really do make my job really easy because you smash everything and I'm just like, 'Let's build it up again.' So, it feels that way but in my mentality when I'm judging and entertaining and all of that, I'm very much myself, complete self. So, it's not that hard to, kind of, switch that German side off. It's difficult to be in South Africa. That's always difficult because I have to really literally tell my brains, 'Relax.' When people say we're coming later, just know it's later. It's not five minutes late, not ten, they come at three o'clock when you said let's meet at eight. So, that's later. So, there I have to really, like, kind of-. Because I get stressed, I'm like, 'We're leaving, we're leaving. We're going to dinner.' And I'm dressed and my people are still going to take a shower. I'm like, 'What?' So, it's that situation.



James Acaster

Ed would be furious.

Ed Gamble

I would hate that.

James Acaster

If people turn up at three when they're meant to get there at eight, I wouldn't even bother showing up. If I was that late, went into Ed's house, I would just fake my own death and try and make him think I was dead and never see him again.

Motsi Mabuse

It's true though.

Ed Gamble

It's weirder though if I try and tell myself to relax about it because if I go, like, 'You just be chill,' and then chill Ed is so obviously not chill. I'd be like, 'Hey man, yes, don't worry about being late. That's cool in this house.' Clearly not me.

Motsi Mabuse

The (mw 29.07) is here. And then somebody asks you something really like, 'Can you pass the salt,' and you're like, 'Salt.' Just angry because of something completely-,

Ed Gamble

Shall I pass you the salt now or shall I leave it an hour after you asked for it.

Motsi Mabuse

Exactly that.

James Acaster

Man, I could not stop burping man.

Motsi Mabuse

Are you drinking sparkling water?

James Acaster

No. I had a diet coke and a bottle of Poke so, I mean, I can't tell you Motsi, I'm sitting here being like, 'If you're sitting here doing fishy burps this whole podcast, man.' I'm holding it all in my throat. It's horrible.

Ed Gamble

Oh, James. If you saw one of the celebrities burp while they were dancing and it was so obviously a burp and you smelt it a little bit, would you reduce your score for them?



Motsi Mabuse

Well, it depends if it's out of timing or not. I mean, if it happens and it you're in the music whatever but if you stop and I'll be like, 'What's up?' Then obviously no points there.

Ed Gamble

If they did a bit of a flourish with it and it was clearly on time, then great. Yes.

James Acaster

If it was right at the end-

Motsi Mabuse

Styling.

James Acaster

At the end, their arms go out, they do the burp on the last note. As the dancer then, the only fear would be if I ended up in the dance off and I had to do it again.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

That would be the only thing. I'd be like, 'I've got to recreate that because they all think it was part of the dance but it wasn't and now I've got to burp again on cue.'

Motsi Mabuse

Fake it. Fake it.

James Acaster

Let's get into your dream menu because otherwise I'm going to keep on asking about Strictly and we said we'll do that throughout the episode.

Motsi Mabuse

It's okay.

James Acaster

Your dream starter.

Motsi Mabuse

You know, the thing is when you love food to pinpoint it to one thing is, like, awful.

Ed Gamble

We know what we ask people to do is horrible.



James Acaster

Yes, yes it's not fun for people to be on the podcast.

Ed Gamble

We have a laugh though.

James Acaster

Listening's fun.

Motsi Mabuse

I love Italian starters. I love when you, kind of, have a choice and then you can mix it. I mean, you have everything when you have tomato and mozzarella and then you've got-, That's what I usually do but when you've got everything. Mushrooms and salami and, like, the house platter and then you're like, 'Okay, let's start.'

James Acaster

So, you would like a platter, you're like a-,

Ed Gamble

Antipasti.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, antipasti, exactly but a yummy one.

James Acaster

Antipasti sounds very negative.

Ed Gamble

Trust me, this is the dream restaurant, it will be it. You don't need to specify yummy.

Motsi Mabuse

I'm just saying because there's a lot of not good stuff there.

Ed Gamble

Motsi would like-, but a yummy one. Write that down. Not horrible.

James Acaster

Not a horrible one. It has to be a yummy antipasti.

Motsi Mabuse

You know what, the word is stuck into my head because yesterday we were looking for some Christmas presents but funny Christmas presents for the team and I found a, kind of, very nice (ph 31.58) Disu out of candy. You know, like, little tiny sweets and I had my daughter and she kept on running around the whole shop going, 'Mummy, your yummy panty here. Your yummy panty,' and



everybody was staring at me. And a couple of girls came, 'Are you Ms Mabuse?' And I'm like, 'Oh no, not now. Right now I'm not.' So, that's why yummy is in my head.

Ed Gamble

Would you like the yummy-,

Motsi Mabuse

Panties?

Ed Gamble

The yummy panties in the anti's. Anti panties?

James Acaster

What do you think of this Motsi? I had a friend, who, when he was younger, like, a little kid in primary school still, he went shopping with his dad and it was his mum's birthday coming up and his dad wanted to buy his mum some nice underwear.

Ed Gamble

Sexy present.

James Acaster

Tantalising senty-,

Ed Gamble

Scented?

Motsi Mabuse

Underwear.

James Acaster

Scented. But the dad was too embarrassed to go up and buy them so sent the kid. So, sent the kid up to buy some sexy lingerie for his own mum. What do you think about that?

Motsi Mabuse

Whatever works guys. No, for real, at this point, think of the goal. And, like, how sweet is it? Probably the child's, like, 'Yes, my dad's over there.'

Ed Gamble

The dad gets busted anyway.

Motsi Mabuse

It doesn't work anyway but whatever works.



James Acaster

Dad pretend to be a manakin real quick. Put some underwear on himself.

Motsi Mabuse

No, do it. Go all the way.

James Acaster

The dad's fine.

Ed Gamble

What else is on this antipasti platter then? So, you've got some salami.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Tomato, mozzarella, mushrooms.

Motsi Mabuse

We've got, I don't know their names in English, you have to excuse me. The lemon with the prosciutto around it. Melon, not lemon. Melon.

James Acaster

Yes. I thought for a second there, lemon with ham? And you accepted that.

Ed Gamble

Well, I thought it was something I'd not heard of. You know, I don't assume I've heard of all the foods. This might be some, sort of, German Italian hybrid thing.

James Acaster

Something you get in Vietnam

Ed Gamble

Melon.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Melon and lemon are crazily close to each other.

Motsi Mabuse

I mean, pronunciation you see.



James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

I've got that accent again.

Ed Gamble

Well, they're just anagrams of each other. That's crazy.

James Acaster

Has that ever got you in trouble before? When you wanted a lemon you got a melon. Or vice versa.

Motsi Mabuse

No. Yes, maybe.

James Acaster

You asked me for lemon in your water earlier. Is that what you meant?

Motsi Mabuse

Watermelon.

Ed Gamble

You wanted a watermelon.

Motsi Mabuse

Watermelon. Melon, you see. There you go, melon. The honey melon.

Ed Gamble

Do you want more bread on there? Any sun dried tomatoes? Anything like that?

Motsi Mabuse

Bread, bread, bread. Sun dried tomatoes yes. I love also, you know from Greece, they fry, like, the zucchini or-, like, that's really, really nice.

James Acaster

And is this, like, a sharing platter? Would you share this with someone? Who would you like at the dream meal if you were to share that with?

Motsi Mabuse

One person that eats well is my husband. So, he's the kind of person that I know we can order more and we don't throw away food. Like, he'll be like, (eating sound 35.05). Yes, he is because he's just like-, you know, when I met him, he didn't care. He was like, 'Food, food, just eat.' You know, and now he's like-, I used to ask him, 'How does it taste?' And he would be like, 'Oh, it doesn't matter. I'm hungry.' So, now he tells it different but I always order so that I know he'll have the rest.



James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Smart. So, he's like a bin. Like, he's a big dustbin basically.

Motsi Mabuse

A little bit. A little bit. He can eat.

Ed Gamble

That's my job as well, don't worry.

Motsi Mabuse

Clean the table.

Ed Gamble

I'm my wife's dustbin too.

Motsi Mabuse

It works. It works.

James Acaster

Ed loves being a dustbin.

Ed Gamble

I do.

James Acaster

Primes himself on it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Makes you feel useful?

Ed Gamble

Oh, yes, absolutely.

James Acaster

Feel good about yourself?



Ed Gamble

I'm more, like, a garbage compacter. You know, the thing in the middle of the sink that people have sometimes. Disposal unit.

James Acaster

Like the one in the Flintstones I guess.

Ed Gamble

Oh, yes.

James Acaster

In the Flintstones the guy that was the compacter's real and can talk. It's a little pink dinosaur.

Ed Gamble

Yes, I'm a pink dinosaur.

Motsi Mabuse

Sweet.

James Acaster

So, he's, kind of like, a little pink dinosaur garbage compacter.

Motsi Mabuse

But it helps.

Ed Gamble

It does. I'm helpful. I'm a helpful guy.

James Acaster

He's very helpful or course.

Ed Gamble

I'll eat banana skins.

Motsi Mabuse

You do?

Ed Gamble

No.

James Acaster

I ate a banana skin once.



Motsi Mabuse

And? Dried, dried, dried.

James Acaster

It really dried up my mouth, yes. I saw on the film K-PAX. There's a film called K-PAX with Kevin Spacey and Jeff Bridges and Kevin Spacey is a man who is claiming to be an alien and you're not sure for the whole film if he's an alien or a man who thinks he's an alien. And at one point he sits down with Jeff Bridges who's a doctor to talk to him and there's a fruit bowl and he just picks up a banana and just eats the banana with the skin on because he's an alien. So, eats it all like that and I read that he did it for real. It wasn't, like, a fake banana, it was a proper thing but I was like, the way he does it looks delicious. I bet that's delicious.

Motsi Mabuse

And you tried it.

Ed Gamble

So, you tried it.

James Acaster

I was in my late teens so I did it and it completely dried my mouth out but I saw it right through to the end still and I ate the whole thing. But, yes, it was pretty bad.

Ed Gamble

We're not sure if James is an alien or not.

Motsi Mabuse

No, we've got to do some tests on you.

James Acaster

What did you think I was an alien? What planet would you think I was from?

Motsi Mabuse

Oh, wow. Help me.

Ed Gamble

Just for the listener, Motsi looked directly at Benito and said, 'Help me.' And I don't know whether that was about the specific situation or the whole podcast in general.

James Acaster

I'd like to say that was the first time it had happened on the pod but it's not. Help me.

Motsi Mabuse

What's the correct answer there? The closest to the planet.



James Acaster

Closest to earth?

Ed Gamble

Not this planet but the closest one.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. Okay, so, you and your husband are sharing some antipasti for a meal. No one else? You don't want any of the Strictly judges with you?

Motsi Mabuse

Why are you putting me in that spot? I want all of them.

James Acaster

You can have one Strictly judge with you.

Motsi Mabuse

No. All or nothing. I'm not choosing.

James Acaster

You can't choose between them?

Motsi Mabuse

No. No, no I don't want to get myself in trouble. everybody's coming to the dinner.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. All three of them.

Motsi Mabuse

All three of them.

James Acaster

And would Craig be, like, 'Oh, this antipasti. It's not the best antipasti I've ever had. This is quite bad.' And Anton's there going, 'It's a ten.' Every mouthful he has he loves it.

Motsi Mabuse

No.

James Acaster

Shirley gets the deciding vote.



Motsi Mabuse

We eat it together. We do share a platter every time actually. We do. We do and we love it. We all love cheese and crackers. I think everybody calls them crackers.

James Acaster

All the judges?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Love cheese and crackers?

Motsi Mabuse

Grapes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

We have grapes and hummus.

James Acaster

Is that what's behind the desk while the show is being filmed?

Motsi Mabuse

No, when we're, kind of like, 'Hey, how are you doing? How was your week?' We sit together and-

Ed Gamble

I've seen it when, you know, the score cards go up and one of them's got a big lump of hummus on the top.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Flicked all over the audience.

Motsi Mabuse

But we're always clearing up because we get, like, you know there's stuff on the table. But we share. We share.



James Acaster

You ever grabbed the wrong paddle by mistake and you've ended up giving someone more or less points than you've intended to.

Motsi Mabuse

No.

James Acaster

Has anyone else done that on the judging panel?

Motsi Mabuse

No. That can't happen. Yes, yes. Shirley did it this year. First year she did that. I think she said six and she had seven and they asked which one was it or something like that. Or something happened like that. But you can't because we have a scoreboard so you have to give the scoreboard and then take the number. So, you concentrate.

James Acaster

You must love that. How efficient that is.

Motsi Mabuse

It's different. I mean, like, in Germany we don't have a scoreboard so you can wait until the very last second. So, you speak to the couple, they go upstairs, they speak to the presenter and even then you still don't have to decide so literally you have five minutes to reflect and then decide. And then it happened, one of the judges was like, 'Dry,' and he had a four. So, now it's like a meme.

James Acaster

A meme.

Motsi Mabuse

A meme everywhere. In every channel people are like, 'Dry.' Yes, that happened.

James Acaster

That's his life forever now.

Motsi Mabuse

That's his life. He walks down the street and kids are going, 'Dry.' (TC 00:40:00) He's famous for that. (talking over each other 40.02) He loves the attention.

James Acaster

Cry.

James Acaster

Your dream main course. Is this a sharer as well or is it just for you?



Motsi Mabuse

No, you know what happens, so, my dream main course, is that when we go to dinner I'm like, 'Okay, I'd love this and this.' And I'm so lucky that my husband says, 'Okay, you choose.' So, I choose both and then we do half half, kind of thing. So, he doesn't really-, only when he orders, like, spaghetti carbonara, then I'm like, 'I'm out, I don't want that.'

James Acaster

Well, hold on, why do you have spaghetti carbonara so much?

Motsi Mabuse

For me it's bland. There just is one taste. Like, it's just (talking over each other 40.52), yes, I don't like it.

James Acaster

Is this when it's got cream in it though, because when it doesn't have cream it's quite a lot nicer?

Motsi Mabuse

Really? I have to try it without cream.

Ed Gamble

You look so, so upset. (talking over each other 41.01) So upset thinking about spaghetti carbonara.

Motsi Mabuse

No, I've tried it and it's just, I don't get it, and when he orders it I'm happy for him because that means he's made a decision, but I'm just, like, 'Ah, try something else.'

James Acaster

Also, he knows it's the one dish you don't like in the world, so, you must be sitting there going, 'Well, what have I done today? I must have said something earlier and he's, like, "You know what, fuck you, I'm getting a carbonara."'

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

But he loves fish, like, he'll take pizza with-, marinara pizza, like he'll put-, and that I don't like so much. So, there are some dishes that he will take that I'm not in it, but my favourite meals I would say, the dream meal a schnitzel.

Ed Gamble

Yes. Is this our first schnitzel?

James Acaster

This might be our first schnitz.



Motsi Mabuse

But, the proper one guys.

James Acaster

So, what's the proper one?

Ed Gamble

Please.

Motsi Mabuse

Like, it's thin, thin, thin, thin, thin, and then it's crunchy, and then you've got a cucumber salad gherkin, and then you've got the red berry sauce and then you've got pommies, like, French fries, that's good.

James Acaster

And what meat is it?

Motsi Mabuse

Normally it's pork, but you can have chicken, but it's normally pork. But a knife thin one where, like, the crunchy part is actually raised from the meat itself and the minute you put, like, the knife, it goes, (food sound 42.24).

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

That's such a good choice.

Motsi Mabuse

Like, thin one.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Very nice. Very nice.

Motsi Mabuse

Because it's not filling, if you have the not so good ones it's just like, crunch. It's not nice.

James Acaster

And do you want your husband to order another dish that you can have half of?



Motsi Mabuse

Well, if it's good, no.

James Acaster

You're fine with your schnitzel?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Hey, yes, but he'll probably order it with me, like, if it's good we order the same, but, yes.

Ed Gamble

But that must be annoying if it's a really good schnitzel, for example, and you've ordered something for him that you know you're going to have half of because the agreement is that he then gets half of the schnitzel, so, you get half way through the schnitzel and you're, like, 'This is going to be an early goodbye to this schnitzel.'

Motsi Mabuse

Well, I-,

Ed Gamble

Straight into the bin.

Motsi Mabuse

No, I do make sure that whatever he orders is yum, it's not, like, yes, if it's nice it's nice, but I really really have a very very friendly husband. He'll be, like, 'Let's order another one.' Or something.

James Acaster

You love this guy.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

He sounds great. I love this guy.

Motsi Mabuse

He is, he is James.

James Acaster

You're obsessed Motsi.



Motsi Mabuse

I am.

James Acaster

You're obsessed with this guy.

Motsi Mabuse

I know. I know. Poor guy.

Ed Gamble

Why don't you just marry him?

Motsi Mabuse

Not yet. No, I'll take schnitzel, because I love a lot of stuff, like I also love spaghetti marinara, but when it's well done, like, oh gosh, really good. Good, good, good, good.

James Acaster

Yes. I feel like you need to try a proper carbonara that doesn't have cream, because in the Stanley Tucci episode, on his TV show, I can't remember where it is he goes to, because obviously it's all around Italy, it might be the Rome episode, and he has carbonara done the right way and it just looks so good, and he's, like, 'This is the best one I've ever had.' But it shouldn't have cream in it.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

And they're very-,

Ed Gamble

Too heavy.

James Acaster

The people he's talking to who make it are, like, you know, they're annoyed that cream gets involved.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, I think it's a thing that people try to fit the taste of something to the countries, like, in Germany if they say chilli, it's chilli for the Germans. If they say chilli in Thailand you can't eat that stuff. You run. So, I think it's something to do with (talking over each other 44.37)-,

Ed Gamble

Obviously just imagining someone going to Thailand and just running, running away every time they see a chilli. Yes. 'No, I'm German.'



James Acaster

So, certain things which weirdly Ed and I find really funny-

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

And people running is one of them.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

And I don't know why. I don't know why the idea of someone running-

Ed Gamble

I think it's just such an extreme thing to do to run away.

James Acaster

Yes, someone running-, running away is funny to us.

Ed Gamble

Yes, running away is funny.

James Acaster

That's when you know you've had an easy life, when the idea of someone running away is fun.

Motsi Mabuse

Have you ever ran away from anything?

James Acaster

Good question. That's a great question.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, yes, I have run away. The only time I remember properly running away and being scared was a night out in Kettering, where I'm from-

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow.



James Acaster

So, this is when I was a teenager, and had some friends who had a flat above a, like, a kebab shop right in the centre of town-,

Motsi Mabuse

This story, where is it going to?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, we were all there on a Friday night, me and about probably, like-, there's probably about fifteen or twenty of us, and we were all into, kind of, punk music at the time, we were listening to quite loud punk music and chatting to each other, and three massive guys who were probably in their thirties walked past, you know, ironed shirts on from work and all this. They're hammered from the pub. And they could see some of us on the balcony and they were shouting out, 'Turn that music down. We hate punk music.' And it was just bad luck for the rest of us that they spoke to the mouthiest ones who were just, like, 'We love it,' And whatever, 'What are you going to do about it mate?' And those guys were psychopaths.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow.

James Acaster

And I don't know how it got from us being in a safe flat altogether, to all fifteen of us running through the town and in different places, like-,

Ed Gamble

Why did you leave the flat?

James Acaster

Well-,

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Well, I'll tell you why-,

Ed Gamble

You stay there surely?



James Acaster

Well, I say I don't know how, they kicked the door in.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow.

James Acaster

So, it was full on.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, that's scary (ph 46.28).

Ed Gamble

Not the only time that's happened to you when you've been in a flat, but finish this one.

James Acaster

Has that happened to me before?

Ed Gamble

Edinburgh Festival.

James Acaster

Oh, yes, I'll tell you that, but, yes-,

Motsi Mabuse

Tell me, tell me.

James Acaster

Guy kicks the door in, we claim we've phoned the police when we haven't. They leave us alone. Then someone decides they're going-, one of the drunk punks goes, 'Oh, no, I'm going to go and confront those guys.' He goes out on his own. We all have to go after him to get him back, and then we're out in the open at that point, and then we're all running away.

Ed Gamble

Yes. That's so funny that you get confronted for playing punk-, you're a load of punks hanging out in the flat, and then within a second you're going, 'We have called the police.'

James Acaster

Yes. 'They are on their way. We've phoned 999.'

Ed Gamble

We don't believe in authority up until we feel scared.



James Acaster

Yes, please, God save the Queen.

Motsi Mabuse

Shame, it never works, right. They're always too late.

James Acaster

Yes, and then at the end of the festival someone, you know, kicked our door in because a member of-, somebody who was living in the flats, not me, poured a pint of water out of the window onto his head, and then the guy tried to kick the door in, couldn't kick the door in thank god, but did have a can of spray paint on him and spray painted a word across the door.

Ed Gamble

But fair enough.

Motsi Mabuse

Guys, guys.

James Acaster

It's the word you're thinking of.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow. Oh wow.

Ed Gamble

I'm going to bring it back to food.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

I've been experimenting with spaghetti recently Motsi-

Motsi Mabuse

And.

Ed Gamble

There's a couple of recipes (talking over each other 47.50).

James Acaster

Is this going to have a sweetie pantie story?



Ed Gamble

No, not a sweetie pantie story.

James Acaster

Okay.

Motsi Mabuse

Candy. Yummy panties.

James Acaster

Yummy yummy panties.

Ed Gamble

Not sweetie panties.

James Acaster

You see, you said you'd been experimenting with spaghetti, I was wondering what-

Ed Gamble

No, with eating it and stuff. I've not been wearing it. Marmite.

James Acaster

Oh, Marmite in the spaghetti. Now.

Ed Gamble

Cook the spaghetti, drain it, save the pasta water, in the pan, butter, Marmite, pasta water, bit of cheese, until you've got an emulsion. Put the spaghetti back in and mix it, absolutely delicious.

Motsi Mabuse

Really?

Ed Gamble

Oh god, so good.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh my gosh.

Ed Gamble

But if you don't like the sound of that-

James Acaster

Now, I should tell you, he is a good cook. So, it probably is nice.



Ed Gamble

There's a Nigella recipe for peanut butter spaghetti that is absolutely fantastic as well.

Motsi Mabuse

Really.

James Acaster

Wow.

Ed Gamble

Similar principle, yes. You don't seem impressed?

Motsi Mabuse

You know what, this thing is with Marmite, I won't get it, I accept that it's there. Every time I bring somebody here (talking over each other 48.48) to visit it's the trick. I'm, like, Nutella, Marmite, and something, and I'm, like, I never say anything. Never ever say anything. I'm, like, 'Try. It's a delicacy.'

Ed Gamble

Well, I think picturing it as a delicacy maybe-,

Motsi Mabuse

Oh, Marmite, I think probably you either love it or hate it, right?

James Acaster

I think so.

Ed Gamble

I think so, yes.

James Acaster

Or something like that. Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

That's why I can't imagine it, but also it's salty. Maybe it's not that bad actually.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Pretty salty.

Ed Gamble

It is pretty salty.



James Acaster

Oh, extremely salty. Yes, so, probably would work in the pasta.

Motsi Mabuse

Or with butter and everything.

Ed Gamble

Yes, but if you were, like, sort of, diluting it with other stuff and then there's-, you know, and then it covers the pasta. Oh.

Motsi Mabuse

Could happen.

James Acaster

I've had chocolate that's got Marmite in it. Have you ever had that? It's surprisingly nice.

Motsi Mabuse

It sounds like one of those challenges.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Where you do it or not do it. How much am I getting paid?

James Acaster

I've definitely mentioned it on the podcast before, but there's ones where it's just chocolate that has some Marmite in it-

Ed Gamble

Yes, I've had that.

James Acaster

And they've made it as blocks so that you can get a faint taste of it and it's quite subtle. In New Zealand for a while they did a limited edition chocolate bar that I think was-, it was weird-, weirdly I think it was Cadbury's doing it over there, where it's, like, you know a Cadbury's Caramel chocolate bar where it's, like, it's literally just filled with caramel?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

It was that, but, Marmite instead of caramel.



Motsi Mabuse

Oh.

Ed Gamble

In fact Paul A Young did that for a bit, yes.

James Acaster

So, big pockets of Marmite-,

Motsi Mabuse

Marmite inside.

James Acaster

And that was a bit trickier actually.

Ed Gamble

Huge respect to Paul A Young the chocolatier who did a similar thing here.

James Acaster

Yes, huge respect.

Ed Gamble

He makes amazing chocolate. You should absolutely seek him out, but he did do a Marmite bar like that and I ordered four of them because I thought, 'I'm going to love this, I love Marmite.' And it was too much for me.

Motsi Mabuse

You love Marmite?

Ed Gamble

I love Marmite, but it's just too much for me.

James Acaster

He also-, Paul A Young did a Marmite chocolate brownie that was delicious, and my flatmate at the time loved chocolate in Marmite, that's how I got into it because he would get himself it as a little treat. He'd get a bar and it would last him a couple of months. He would just have a little block a day, and I got him this brownie because he'd just broken up with someone and I was like-,

Motsi Mabuse

I love you my friend.

James Acaster

'He's going to love this.' And he did love it to be fair. The chocolate brownie one was good.



Ed Gamble

Yes, cheered him up?

James Acaster

It did cheer him up. He said, 'That was thoughtful.' And I was, like, 'Yes. There you go. Sorry that you're unlovable.' He's married now.

Motsi Mabuse

Friends.

James Acaster

He's married now.

Ed Gamble

He's married now, yes.

Motsi Mabuse

No, Marmite, I think it's common world thing, I think, we had it in South Africa when we were young. Nobody has ever heard of it outside the people eating Marmite. It's, like-,

Ed Gamble

There's one rule in Marmite club-,

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Don't talk about Marmite. Don't spread the word, spread the Marmite is the catchphrase.

James Acaster

Yes,

Motsi Mabuse

So, you love it as well?

James Acaster

Yes. I like it a lot. In fact, our main logo for the podcast for the while was just the Marmite jar, but instead of saying Marmite it said Off Menu. And then Marmite sent us this.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh wow.



James Acaster

So, the Marmite people sent us our own jar of Marmite that says Off Menu instead of Marmite, and that's when we knew we'd made it.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

That's probably out of date. Don't eat that Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. No, I'm not touching it.

James Acaster

Unless you just want to do it for one of those dares. How badly do you want to sell this book?

Ed Gamble

Eat that whole jar.

James Acaster

Eat a spoonful of that.

James Acaster

Gone for German for the main. Side dish going to stay in Germany?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, I'm going to stay in Germany. I'm going to say there's a lot of ways that you can make potatoes tasty yummy. There's that yummy word again. But I've got this potato, how do you call it, like, when they've got the potato and the mash it like that, and then they fry it and then it's, like-,

James Acaster

Like smashed potatoes, or-,

Ed Gamble

Like a fondant potato, that sort of thing maybe?

James Acaster

Oh, maybe a fondant potato.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, it's really really very good, very tasty, but it's-,



Ed Gamble

It's not a fondant potato then.

James Acaster

Hash, like a hash brown?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Like a potato hash?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, or, what they do is they-, you see, you see, I don't have to speak about these things on Strictly. So, these words I don't have them in my mouth. So, they grate the potato and then they put them together and then they-,

Ed Gamble

Rosti?

Motsi Mabuse

Rosti, yes-, (talking over each other 53.07)-,

Ed Gamble

Rosti is a great choice.

Motsi Mabuse

Again.

James Acaster

But now we're going to have to ask you to choose between-,

Ed Gamble

Which one are you taking?

Motsi Mabuse

I'm taking the rosti's guys.

Ed Gamble

The rosti's.

James Acaster

Yes.



Motsi Mabuse

The good ones.

Ed Gamble

Perfect for a schnitzel as well. You could just lay a whole rosti on top and-

James Acaster

Oh, yes, give me rosti and the schnitzel, you're (talking over each other 53.22) those aren't you and no-one's looking down on you for that.

Ed Gamble

That's such an insight into how you think.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

Wow. Better think about what I do just in case anyone looks down on me for it.

James Acaster

Yes. I'm raised Christian. I was a Christian until my twenties. Absolutely everything I'm doing I'm thinking I'm getting looked down on for. I've got to be careful.

Motsi Mabuse

He's right.

James Acaster

Is there a particular place where you've had these potato rosti's that was the best, and that for your dream meal you'd want them from that place?

Motsi Mabuse

There's a really nice restaurant, it's in the hotel actually. It's in a hotel close to where I live. Kranichstein that's where I live.

Ed Gamble

That's where my dad lived.

James Acaster

What?

Ed Gamble

He lived in Kranichstein for three years.



Motsi Mabuse

Really?

Ed Gamble

Yes, yes, yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Really?

Ed Gamble

He was working in Frankfurt and lived in Kranichstein for three years. Yes. That's amazing.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. You're right. He's right. Is this true?

Ed Gamble

It's a beautiful beautiful town. It's so nice.

Motsi Mabuse

We live there.

James Acaster

There you go.

Motsi Mabuse

What a coincidence. Are you serious?

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

So, there's a Kempinski Hotel there and in the Kempinski there's a nice restaurant and, I mean, (talking over each other 54.27) really place to go.

James Acaster

For the rosti's?

Motsi Mabuse

For rosti's, for the schnitzel, for the salad, for everything.

James Acaster

Oh, wow. So, you'd like the schnitzel from there as well, for your dream menu?



Motsi Mabuse

Yes, perfect.

James Acaster

Great. Lovely.

Motsi Mabuse

I've had really nice schnitzel in Munich or in Vienna. In Vienna they do something, but that hotel restaurant is very very very very very accomplished and it's fantastic.

James Acaster

Do you know what the restaurant's called?

Motsi Mabuse

Sorry.

James Acaster

Well, we can find out.

Motsi Mabuse

We can google it.

Ed Gamble

We can google.

James Acaster

It will be on the website. We basically put all the recommendations from the podcast onto the website so people if they're visiting they can go there.

Motsi Mabuse

If you go there in Kranichstein it's Kempinski Falkenstein it's called. Falkenstein.

James Acaster

Right.

Motsi Mabuse

And actually they were filming The Crown there.

Ed Gamble

Oh wow.

James Acaster

Wow.



Motsi Mabuse

Yes, so, a bit of The Crown. So, it's really, really good and you overlook-, there's a park and then you can see all of Frankfurt from there up in the mountain.

James Acaster

Lovely.

Motsi Mabuse

Perfect.

James Acaster

If you were to pick a location for your dream meal, has there been somewhere that's just had the nicest view? Have you ever been sitting there and regardless of what you've been having to eat, but, like, the view is the best-,

Motsi Mabuse

Amazing.

James Acaster

Is there one that sticks out to you?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. Well, you know, because of the dancing I travelled a lot. I'm thankful for that. There was a little restaurant that I was in at night. It looked fantastic in Majorca. I don't know how you say it in English. It's , and they have, like, these little houses inside the mountain and at night you just see the lamps and you're sitting there, and the restaurant, everybody's got to, kind of, duck to go in. Absolutely beautiful, and lovely, lovely food. That's a nice view that I will never forget, kind of. Because Majorca, it reminds me a little bit of South Africa, you know, with the ocean and the mountains. And, so, we went there and it then went dark and beautiful.

Ed Gamble

It's weird how setting changes food though and food changes setting, because, like, that beautiful Majorcan area that you're talking about, if you had a schnitzel and rosti that would feel weird, right?

Motsi Mabuse

Very.

Ed Gamble

Yes, because you need that German surrounding, maybe for it to be a little bit cold as well and, sort of, maybe a fire and a lot of wood in the room.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.



Ed Gamble

And then that feels right. But you can't eat your schnitzel on the beach.

Motsi Mabuse

No. Like, every time I go to South Africa as well and they've got schnitzel somewhere, I'm just, like, I cannot. I won't. I feel like it's a disappointment, probably too big, yes.

James Acaster

Yes, like, whenever I've been to America if there's an Indian restaurant I don't bother going because we've got so many good Indian restaurants around here and I just know it's not going to be as good there. Obviously, if I was in India that would be different.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, but that's the thing also, like, we spoke before, Indian food, because we're so used to the way it tastes here, when I went to India I was just, like, 'We're doing it wrong.' There's such a difference. But I also can't eat it anywhere else. That's how it's got to be.

James Acaster

I want to go to (talking over each other 57.34).

Motsi Mabuse

So, what would you eat in America? A burger?

James Acaster

Oh no, no. I mean, oh, there's so much good food in America.

Motsi Mabuse

Spare ribs.

James Acaster

I would eat spare ribs in-, I did eat some spare ribs last time I was in America, and they were so good. It was in Austin, Texas. Me and my tour manager after the gig, we'd got a place pinned for tacos. We're going to go there for tacos.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Everyone says this is the best tacos, we're going to go there. We finish at, like, half nine. That gives us enough time. We know that the place closes at half ten. We get a cab over. We get there for ten.



There's a short line outside the door and the last person in the line is wearing a sign on their back that has been put on them that says closed. But apparently this is what the place does, is that when they decide they're done, they go to the last person in the line and they drape a sign over them-,

Motsi Mabuse

Oh, it doesn't work.

James Acaster

So that on their back is a laminated piece of card-,

Ed Gamble

Didn't work though.

James Acaster

A laminated piece of card that says closed, and this customer is now in charge of telling everyone, 'No, it's closed now.'

Motsi Mabuse

That they're closed now.

James Acaster

And getting shit from everyone. Everyone who turns up is, like, 'They're meant to close at half ten.' He's, like, 'Dude, honestly, I'm just a customer. I don't work here. They put this sign on me, and now I'm having to deal with complaints.' 'Well, they shouldn't be closing yet.' 'I know they shouldn't be.' I was, like, 'Well, how come you're allowed in and I'm not?'

Ed Gamble

It would be amazing if he wasn't though.

Motsi Mabuse

I'll take the sign.

James Acaster

Yes. Huh?

Ed Gamble

It would be amazing if he wasn't allowed in.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

He got to the door and they were, like, 'Look at what you're wearing. See you later.'



James Acaster

'You're the sign.'

Motsi Mabuse

Ah.

James Acaster

'Oh, come on guys.'

Motsi Mabuse

That's cruel.

James Acaster

But instead we walked back to the hotel from the taco place and said, 'Anywhere that's open we go there.' Sam's Bar-B-Que (ph 59.05) was open. We went in there and we were, like, 'Whatever you've got left.' And he's, like, 'The ribs are good.' We were, like, 'Great, we'll have ribs.' They were-, you know we're on dream side dish at the minute, if I was to make a dream menu of that tour that I had in America, they would be my dream side was these ribs.

Ed Gamble

Side?

James Acaster

Yes, I'd have them as the side-,

Ed Gamble

Okay.

Motsi Mabuse

Okay.

James Acaster

Because they were delicious, but I know what my dream main would be from that. I did do a whole thing with my tour manager where he was, like, 'Let's do an Off Menu, but for the tour.' So, we did that and those were my dream side, were those ribs.

Ed Gamble

Do you love that when he went, 'Let's do an Off Menu?' Like, 'Oh, alright.'

James Acaster

I did love it actually. I wish I could say that I didn't, but I was, like, 'That's a brilliant idea.' Also, man, that place did daiquiris as well.



Motsi Mabuse

Oh, I love them.

James Acaster

Take away daiquiris.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

In a foam cup, huge, humongous. Absolutely insane that I drank this. (TC 01:00:00) They said, 'Do you like boozy or sweet?' I said, 'I'll take boozy over sweet.' They went, 'Yes.' And they weren't messing around.

Motsi Mabuse

No.

James Acaster

It was like a whole drum full. It was fluorescent red and I couldn't stop drinking it. By the time I got to the hotel I was, like, 'Man, you really need to make sure I wake up tomorrow because I'm going to miss the flight.'

Ed Gamble

Yes. How did you even sleep?

James Acaster

Yes, I thought I've got so much sugar in me and I'm hammered. I'm going to go and kick someone's door in for playing punk music. That's how drunk I am.

Motsi Mabuse

Everything's big in America. Everything.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Like a glass of wine. I'm just, like, 'Is this the glass or is this half of the bottle.'



Ed Gamble

Yes, and with anything like any spirits as well, they don't use any measures. They just free pour everything.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

So, you go and have a cocktail or something and then you realise it's just straight booze all the way up to the top. Great. Love it. Jug it.

Motsi Mabuse

But it's quite expensive, right? Like, it's good. We went out with friends in New York and I didn't know, you know, so, were, like, eight people there and everybody's ordering and ordering and I'm thinking, 'Okay, I'm going to spend my money on clothes and shoes and bags.' So, I'm just going to eat a salad and just have a little cocktail. And they were eating and were having fun or whatever, and at the end of the meal they're, like, 'Okay, we're going to split the bill.' Like, in Germany (talking over each other 01.01.24) 55 cents, okay, you've paid 20 and you've paid-, so, I was, like, 'Oh okay.' The next day we went out you can imagine what I did. 'The menu.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, you've got to earn that back.

James Acaster

Oh, I thought you were going to say you went clothes shopping with them all and made them split the bill with you.

Motsi Mabuse

No.

Ed Gamble

Yes, that would have been the-, send them the bill for the clothes.

Motsi Mabuse

No, no, no.

James Acaster

Honestly, I love how earlier you mentioned watching Sex and the City, and now you've gone, 'And then I went to New York and I was going to go clothes shopping.' And doing this was, like, exactly that life style.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, sorry. Typical.



James Acaster

You got to live your dream.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

I did. I did. That's education that Sex and the City. Everyone should watch it. Everyone male.

James Acaster

No, I've benefited a lot from watching Sex and the City-,

Motsi Mabuse

You see, you see.

James Acaster

When it comes to food.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh.

James Acaster

Because every time we go to New York-,

Ed Gamble

You're the only guy who took that from that.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Huh?

Ed Gamble

Me and Motsi didn't think you were going to say that.

Motsi Mabuse

No. We're, like, 'Oh.'

Ed Gamble

'I learnt a lot from Sex and the City.'



James Acaster

Yes, the food.

Motsi Mabuse

Food.

James Acaster

Magnolia Bakery. I go to Magnolia Bakery and get the banana pudding all the time because that's what they eat in Sex and the City. I don't know what you two were thinking about?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, life.

James Acaster

Your dream drink then? We were just talking about drinks a little bit.

Motsi Mabuse

I have this wine I love.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

I don't know if you guys know it. It's called Chocolate Block from South Africa.

Ed Gamble

South African wine, yes. It's really good.

Motsi Mabuse

I love that.

James Acaster

I think I have heard of this, yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Have you, yes. You try it. Try it. It's just fantastic. I don't what's happening in it-,

Ed Gamble

It's a very recognisable label as well. It's, like, a white label just with Chocolate Block written on it in black.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.



Ed Gamble

And it's pretty widely available, right. You can find it because-

Motsi Mabuse

Finally, yes.

Ed Gamble

Sometimes with wine you have an amazing glass of wine and you're, like, 'What's the bottle? Take a picture of it.'

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And then you go online and there's nothing about it. But Chocolate Block you can actually buy it, yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Finally you get it here, and I take-, I used to, kind of, fly over from South Africa with Chocolate Block. No clothes, but Chocolate Block in the suitcase, but now you find it, so, it's really great.

James Acaster

Does it live up to its name? Very chocolatey?

Motsi Mabuse

I wouldn't say chocolatey but it's got that-, you know, chocolate has got a, kind of-, well, it's rich. It's rich and it feels like you're drinking velvet.

James Acaster

Wow.

Ed Gamble

It's a good description of it.

Motsi Mabuse

If velvet was a drink.

Ed Gamble

It's a big wine. It's a big wine.

James Acaster

So, if I put red wine in my Velvetiser, would it taste like a Chocolate Block?



Ed Gamble

No. Don't put red wine in your Velvetiser.

Motsi Mabuse

Why didn't I bring the bottle? I should have. I have one in my room.

James Acaster

I think it would be, like a-

Motsi Mabuse

He's, like, 'What?'

Ed Gamble

Next to the bed?

Motsi Mabuse

Hi, baby. No, it's Christmas time. I'm handing them out.

James Acaster

Well, that could be two over Christmas. That could be a mulled wine. I could do that in the Velvetiser. Put the Chocolate Block in-, because that's still (mw 01.04.11). It's a hot chocolate Velvetiser. If I'm putting Chocolate Block in there, I can plead innocence if I have to take it to the mechanic or whatever and get it fixed.

Ed Gamble

To the mechanic?

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

To the chocolate mechanic?

James Acaster

Yes. So, if I put the Chocolate Block in there and try and make a little mulled wine, maybe put some cloves in there, a little orange, a little cinnamon, and put it in the Velvetiser and see what I come up with there. And if it breaks I can go to the mechanic and go, 'Sorry, it said Chocolate Block on it. I thought it was hot chocolate.'

Ed Gamble

Yes, sorry, all the cloves have gummed up the mechanism.



James Acaster

Yes, yes, I don't know-, it's confusing, Merry Christmas though. Do you like mulled wine? Mulled wine, the warm wine at Christmas?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, it's called Gluhwein. I love it.

James Acaster

Sorry, you're looking at me like my accent had got in the way there.

Motsi Mabuse

No, no, no. No, no, I love it. I just thought-, I was thinking, I haven't had an opportunity to drink it and I'm leaving soon, and when I'm back they don't have it anymore. That was just in my thought.

James Acaster

Oh, sorry.

Motsi Mabuse

I love, I love, I love Gluhwein.

James Acaster

Because when you said about Northern accents earlier, I was, like, I'm not Northern, but, I'm still a-,

Motsi Mabuse

No, you caught me. You still understand me.

James Acaster

I still have a bad accent.

Motsi Mabuse

You have something. You have a, sort of, an accent.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's disgusting isn't it?

Motsi Mabuse

What is it?

James Acaster

You can tell me it's disgusting if you want to Motsi.



Motsi Mabuse

I would never say anything like that in my life.

James Acaster

I don't mind if you think my voice is disgusting.

Motsi Mabuse

No, not at all.

Ed Gamble

I know you think it's disgusting Motsi, you don't need to say it.

Motsi Mabuse

No, no, not disgusting.

James Acaster

Just tell me if it's disgusting Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

I understand you, that's the main point.

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

And I understand it's disgusting.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

But where are you from?

James Acaster

Kettering in Northamptonshire.

Motsi Mabuse

Ah.

James Acaster

In the middle of the country. I don't know-, I'm trying to think now if any Strictly guests have come from near there.



Ed Gamble

No, you're the only person to have come from Kettering that's in the public eye.

James Acaster

Yes, but maybe if there's someone from near there, but I don't think there is really.

Ed Gamble

Gluhwein is mulled wine, right?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

But the Germans do in a pretty special way.

Motsi Mabuse

Over Christmas.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

Over Christmas. It's mainly over Christmas. So, it's a European thing, because we don't have it in South Africa.

Ed Gamble

I think so, because they have it in Scandinavia as well and call it different things. So, my wife's just filmed a show in Finland, and in Finland they call it Glogi.

Motsi Mabuse

Glogi.

James Acaster

Oh great. Oh great.

Motsi Mabuse

Glogi. Close to Gluhwein?

Ed Gamble

Yes, close to Gluhwein, and then in Denmark it's Glogg.

James Acaster

Okay.



Ed Gamble

But they put, like, nuts-, they can put slithered almonds in it and then-,

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, raisins.

Ed Gamble

And raisins, and then pour extra booze in it as well, like, Cognac. I was, like, 'Oh, it's so good.'

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, I'm with you there.

James Acaster

Raisins in the wine? That's weird.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Because that's, like, old wine, raisins isn't it?

Ed Gamble

Yes. It's not old wine.

James Acaster

No, no, no.

Ed Gamble

It could have been wine. It's wine that didn't reach it's potential.

James Acaster

Yes, it's weird I guess, because it's-, wine is, like, really old grapes, but then raisins are also like old grapes.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

So, they're just like different directions-,

Ed Gamble

It's like sliding doors.



James Acaster

Yes, yes, they look at each other and go, 'This is what I could have been.' And raisins, so, they find themselves bobbing about in the wine. Must be very weird.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

'Look at me.'

James Acaster

How would you feel Motsi if you were a raisin bobbing about in some wine?

Motsi Mabuse

Well, I'd feel at home, no? You know.

Ed Gamble

Thank you for answering that absolutely idiotic question Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

What can I say.

James Acaster

We arrive at your dream dessert.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh, this has been such a difficult day. Let's stick with chocolate.

James Acaster

Okay.

Motsi Mabuse

Yet, let's stick with-, again, my wording, I will have that, how do you call that chocolate that's not really completely, like, baked and then you go in and it's nice and soft.

James Acaster

Yes, it's a chocolate lava cake.

Ed Gamble

Or a chocolate fondant.

James Acaster

Or a chocolate fondant.



Ed Gamble

Yes, it's a great choice.

Motsi Mabuse

That with ice-cream or maybe some vanilla. I'm thinking-, because in my head something else is coming up, but I'll stick to that choice.

James Acaster

What was the other thing coming up in your head?

Motsi Mabuse

It's, like, creamy. They eat it a lot in Spain.

Ed Gamble

Like, crema catalana-,

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, yes, yes.

James Acaster

Oh, I haven't had this crema catalan.

Motsi Mabuse

He's very good. With some caramel on top.

Ed Gamble

Yes, it's a bit like a crème brulee, right, but in Spain is it a bit orangey?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, oranges, yes.

Ed Gamble

Oh, it's so good.

Motsi Mabuse

And then you have caramelised, like, the sugar on top, and then you break it-,

Ed Gamble

It's so good.

Motsi Mabuse

Then you're in paradise.



James Acaster

Well, do you want it that you order the chocolate fondant and your husband orders the crema catalan and you have half each?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, yes, yes, and he'll probably order something on top, because he does that.

Ed Gamble

I love this guy.

James Acaster

Do you know what, I see why you're so obsessed with him now.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

If he's ordering two puddings.

Motsi Mabuse

He does for real.

James Acaster

I'll marry him.

Motsi Mabuse

Don't you dare. No (talking over each other 01.08.54)-,

James Acaster

We found a line of what would be taken as a joke, 'Do not marry my husband.'

Motsi Mabuse

Boundaries.

James Acaster

That sounds great if you're splitting the puds like that. Bit respect.

Ed Gamble

Yes, you couldn't do that.

James Acaster

Yes.



Ed Gamble

You'd have one thing to yourself and then something for the table to split.

James Acaster

I would do that, but I would also-, in the past when I have gone, 'Oh, let's both get a different one and we'll have half because I can't decide.' Whatever one I like the best out of the two I'll order a full one of that again afterwards.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

So, I will do half and half and then I'll think, 'I really liked that one. I wish I'd had a full one.' Order the full one. Last time I did that was in Lisbon, and this is something you might like.

Motsi Mabuse

Oh nice.

James Acaster

I had a red wine and chocolate ice-cream.

Motsi Mabuse

That sounds great doesn't it?

Ed Gamble

It does.

James Acaster

And, yes, I think that would be right up your street actually Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

It was very delicious with this amazing quite thick home made wafer biscuit, and it was so good I just ordered another one straight away-,

Motsi Mabuse

Nice, nice.

James Acaster

Because it was like-, had to, because absolutely obsessed with the first one. I felt that way about the ice-cream that you feel about your husband.



Motsi Mabuse

You know what, it's funny when you speak about it, (TC 01:10:00) I don't know what. One thing I left out that I really really really love, it's not-, I don't know (inaudible 01.10.05), but it's truffle. If there's anything truffle anywhere, I'm, like, 'I'll have that.'

Ed Gamble

Well, we could put a truffle on the side with, like, a little grater, and if you feel like it just-, you can grate it onto the food, you can-,

Motsi Mabuse

On the potatoes.

Ed Gamble

On to the-,

James Acaster

Oh, there you go.

Ed Gamble

Yes, onto the rusty truffle (talking over each other 01.10.23).

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Motsi just did a dance move everyone. I got to see it in real life.

Ed Gamble

Ten, it's a ten from me.

Motsi Mabuse

All for the food.

James Acaster

It's a ten.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes. Love, love, love.

James Acaster

What if they ask, for a joke, for a bit of fun, they ask you to enter Strictly one year?

Motsi Mabuse

I've done it.



James Acaster

I mean, yes, but what if they were like, 'You're not (talking over each other 01.10.42) you're one of the celebs.'?

Motsi Mabuse

Listen, I would do it. I keep on saying that every single day. I'll tell you why, because every time I go up the stairs I see all these girls and I see all these celebrities and they get fit, right. They get fit. And for me to be, like, 'Okay, come on, we're going to go to the fitness studio.' Or whatever, home training. I'm just, like, 'But if you have to.' I'm always, like, 'Find a show like that for me.' To my manager. 'Find me that, but differently.'

Ed Gamble

I do the same thing, I call my manager every day and say, 'Get me cast in a Marvel film.'

James Acaster

Yes.

Ed Gamble

All I want is that, and I don't have to be in it, I just want to do the gym bit.

James Acaster

Yes.

Motsi Mabuse

You know.

Ed Gamble

Yes.

James Acaster

Yes, I don't care if I don't make the edit.

Ed Gamble

Fire me. Fire me just beforehand.

Motsi Mabuse

I worked for it.

James Acaster

Matt-, no, I won't say that.

Ed Gamble

Okay.



James Acaster

Can't say it. That's a story that was told to me in confidence. I'm going to read your menu back to you now, see how you feel about it.

Motsi Mabuse

Okay.

James Acaster

You would like sparkling water with lemon and ice and some glitter in it.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

Ed Gamble

You'll tell me the story afterwards, right?

James Acaster

Yes. I've already told it to you. Poppadoms or bread? You would like bread. You would like a selection of German breads from the bakery.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, please.

James Acaster

But there was one in particular you said that was your favourite.

Motsi Mabuse

Falcon (ph 01.11.53) bread.

James Acaster

Yes, delicious.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Starter, antipasti to share with your husband. You want a yummy one with tomatoes, mozzarella, mushrooms, salami, honey melon with the pancetta (ph 01.12.03) around it. More bread. Sun-dried tomatoes. Fried zucchini. Main course, schnitzel, nice and thin. Side dish, potato rosti with a little bit of truffle on the side that you can grate on if you feel like it.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.



James Acaster

And that is from the hotel-,

Motsi Mabuse

Falkenstein. Kempinski.

James Acaster

Then you want some Chocolate Block wine, and for dessert, a chocolate fondant with ice-cream for yourself. Crema catalana for your husband.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Half each and then he'll order a surprise one on top of that.

Motsi Mabuse

Yes.

James Acaster

Do you know what-,

Ed Gamble

That's a great menu.

James Acaster

I know we stressed you out-,

Motsi Mabuse

You did.

James Acaster

But that's a delicious menu.

Ed Gamble

That's so good.

James Acaster

You've got to be happy with that?

Motsi Mabuse

Yes, that's food man.



Ed Gamble

What a perfect way to end the podcast. We are changing the name of the podcast to that's food man.

James Acaster

It will definitely be the strapline for the pod.

Ed Gamble

Yes, definitely. Thank you so much for coming on the podcast Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

Thank you guys.

James Acaster

Thank you Motsi.

Motsi Mabuse

Thank you.

Ed Gamble

That was the Off Menu menu of Motsi Mabuse, and thank you so much to Motsi for coming in. That was great.

James Acaster

Thank you Motsi. Sorry for the burps.

Ed Gamble

Sorry for the burps Motsi. My stomach behaved itself though.

James Acaster

Yes, your stomach was very good. I was burping away. I'm going to be thinking about that for a long time.

Ed Gamble

That is mad that she lives where my dad used to live.

James Acaster

That's crazy. I didn't think enough of a big deal was made of it at the time.

Ed Gamble

No, I think she thought I was lying.

James Acaster

Yes.



Ed Gamble

She thought I was doing a joke.

James Acaster

Yes, yes.

Ed Gamble

Which shows what she thinks the quality of my jokes are.

James Acaster

Yes, yes. It's, like, that must be what passes for humour here in the UK.

Ed Gamble

Yes. My dad lived there.

James Acaster

Okay, cool. What's next?

Ed Gamble

Cool, alright, yes.

James Acaster

A delicious menu.

Ed Gamble

Great menu.

James Acaster

A great menu, and do you know what, I'd love to eat that menu while reading Finding My Own Rhythm by Motsi Mabuse.

Ed Gamble

Lovely.

James Acaster

And thank you Motsi for not saying the secret ingredient, not saying microwaved vegetables.

Ed Gamble

Not saying microwave veg. No, thank you.

James Acaster

Motsi likes to do things properly.



Ed Gamble

Not a lot of veg made it onto the menu actually to be fair.

James Acaster

Yes, actually, oh, there's a bit of salad there. There a little side salad for the cucumber schnitz.

Ed Gamble

The cucumber salad to go with the schnitz. But mainly meat and potatoes (ph 01.14.01).

James Acaster

Meat and potatoes for your mates.

Ed Gamble

You know what, every time I come out of an Off Menu and think, 'I really want this now.' And it's pretty much the whole menu, so, it must have been good. But the schnitz, the rosti, and then we-, she didn't pick mulled wine or Gluhwein, but I do really want a mulled wine now. I've not had one yet. We are recording this in a festive season and I very much would like a mulled wine at some point.

James Acaster

We've talked enough about it for it to be a thing now that you're going to want. I mean, every festive season everyone finds it. The first time someone mentions a thing to you that you haven't eaten that festive season yet, I've got to have it. I've got to have a mince pie. When someone puts that in your head and you haven't had one yet, and then you have one, and then you go, 'Not for another year, thank you.'

Ed Gamble

Benito, can you make us some mulled wine please?

James Acaster

Yes, and some mince pies with your fair hands.

Ed Gamble

Thank you very much to Motsi for carrying on the show.

James Acaster

Thank you Motsi, you're the greatest of judges.

Ed Gamble

We will see you again next week. Bye bye.

James Acaster

Goodbye.