

**Homework #8**

*Due for class Th 10/6*

READ the following two essays, preferably in the order given:

- 1) “Food Processor,” by Joan Acocella. Acocella writes on literature and dance and, occasionally, food.
- 2) “What’s Cooking” by Adam Gopnik. Gopnik writes on all sorts of cultural matters and has written essays about cooking and restaurants; some of these appear in his collection *From Paris to the Moon*, which describes his family’s stay in Paris while his children were very young.

You’ll notice that both of these essays are book reviews and they do three things simultaneously: provide a sense of what the books under consideration are about; provide the reader with a lot of information, much of which is entertaining; and introduce ideas that belong to the reviewer, and are stimulated by her or his thinking about the books being reviewed.

**FOR CLASS DISCUSSION:** Pick three ideas from the readings—at least two of them from the Gopnik piece—that you think are powerful ideas. Be prepared to say what makes these ideas powerful.