

food they had just eaten and others were trying to get every last morsel from their small portions. One of the restaurants we were very eager to try was Marcus Wareing at The Savoy Grill. We had been to one of his restaurants a few years ago and it was an experience I will always remember. Not only was the food outstanding, the service was impeccable. He had also been one of the finalists who had been selected to cook for the queen on her birthday. This time I tried the crab salad and believe me when I say I went straight to gastronomic heaven with my first mouthful. I could not have found anything to fault it by except for the fact that our portions were minute and I would have been happier with a plate ten times as large! We soon moved on to try a couple of dishes from a Thai restaurant and one serving British food. How much more British can you get than fish and chips and it seems to me to be the epitome of comfort food? So no guesses as to what we chose at that particular restaurant stall. As far as desserts were concerned, my friend and I went for a hot chocolate fondue with marshmallows, biscotti and strawberry and blueberry skewers! All I can say to you is mmm...Yes I was one of the people who had my eyes closed for this particular experience. Another friend

tried a dessert which was delicious and somewhat unusual. It was Fraiche strawberries and coconut ice cream. It was wonderfully light and refreshing and I was surprised to taste both sugar and salt in the dish, however it seemed to go remarkably well together.

As one of our friends had organised the evening and it also happened to be his birthday, we all congregated at a spot which had a seating area and cut a cake and embarrassed him with our singing! This was of course in between sampling the dishes that seemed to beckon at us and call out to be tasted. It was rather nice to take a bit of a breather to make space for yet more food. It also gave me an opportunity to enjoy the ambience around me. It was like sensory overloads as the visual presentation of the dishes were stunning despite being served en masse and the smell and tastes were fabulous.

I think we were all very reluctant to leave when our evening came to an end and I think I would have loved to have tried a vast number of other items from different restaurants but it looks like I may have to wait for another year to do that. But trust me next time I will have a strategy worked out to make sure I get to sample as many of the dishes that I would have liked to this year!



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