

4195

Ethel Smyth

Judy Chicago (1980): I'd now like you to notice the place setting for one of the first major female composers, Ethel Smyth. The wing image on her plate becomes the top of a piano pressing down on the plate, a symbol of the way Smyth was suppressed. The tailored suit she habitually wore is represented on the runner, but this suit is taken in at the seams to represent how Smyth's potential was unrealized because of the resistance of the musical establishment of her time.

