

SEE

TOUCH

TASTE

SMELL

HEAR

We love to see things that strike us, that make us look or think twice and urge us to tell our friends.

Kuriositäten introduces you to these concepts on different levels and from various fields. This time by stimulating your senses. Enjoy!



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TEXT BY

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SENSES

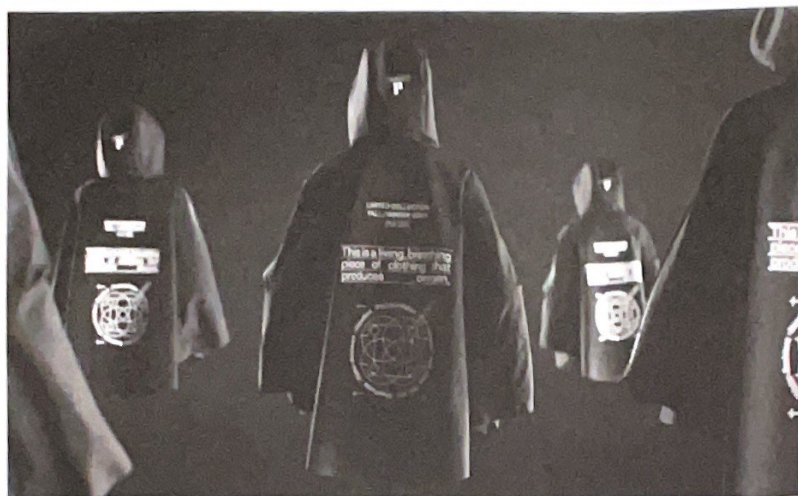


Plump apples, freshly picked cherries, and juicy peaches—how easy is it to picture a Giuseppe Arcimboldo still life featuring any of these? It is when fruit is perfectly ripe that it's a source of inspiration. As time goes by, most of us will dispose of bad fruit, made uneasy by the decay, but Kathleen Ryan sees rotting fruit as filled with significance. The New York based artist creates oversized sculptures, as tall as 1.67 meters, completely covered in thousands of tiny gemstones that form a color gradient which allows us to watch fruit and vegetables rot before our eyes. *Bad Lemon* (2020) has very little lemon left in it, as the fragments of magnesite, moonstone and prehnite have turned it into a green and gray mold. *Jackie* (2021), the enormous 2.28-meter long pumpkin is a fresh and bright orange on the outside but, through its Jack O'Lantern face, you can see that it has gone bad. Kathleen uses lapis lazuli, black onyx, citrine and other gemstones to portray not only the unseen beauty of the cycle of life, but also to hint at the figurative rot of contemporary principles of art. There is a blasting paradox in using precious gemstones—favored by elites—to recreate the slow process of deterioration. The fruity sculptures have toured the United States and were exhibited in London over the summer. For those not around to see *Bad Lemon* and *Jackie* in the flesh, Kathleen Ryan published the book *Bad Fruit*, a visual collection of the oversized, bejeweled, mold-infested fruit.



01 DEE

BAD FRUIT



02 TOUCH

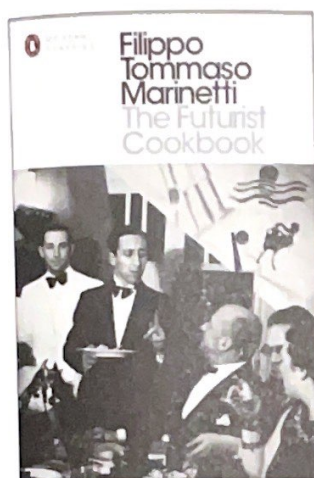
FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN

As textile production is increasingly becoming known as one of the most polluting industries on the planet, there is a countermovement that wants to provide us with sustainable options. Azgard9's CO2AT is the perfect response to fast fashion chains: the Pakistani company has developed a poncho that absorbs carbon dioxide and turns it into oxygen. The prototype is made from light, breathable fabric which is then lined with photosynthetic microorganisms, making it a kind of wearable plant, one that won't die as quickly as flowers in a vase. The material was developed by the sustainability-oriented company and is treated with an antibacterial finish, protecting it against bacteria and mold. Whatever impact is caused by the production of this piece of clothing is neutralized over its life cycle, since it is estimated to produce about the same amount of oxygen as an oak tree. Not to mention that it will have a positive impact on the environment of the wearer.

More and more, textile producers are shifting from synthetic fibers and turning to greener options, such as photosynthetic microorganisms or even more natural alternatives, like algae. AlgiKnit has spent the last few years conducting research to develop biomaterials like yarn made of kelp, seaweed, or algae. The New York based company takes kelp, the fastest growing plant in the ocean, and, mixed with renewable components, makes a stretchy yarn that is resistant enough to be worked by hand or in industrial manufacturing. Even though AlgiKnit has been in the works since 2018, like CO2AT, it is still in development and not yet available on the market. Hopefully, the day will soon come when we will walk the streets in a kelp cardigan under a living, breathing coat.

03 TASTE

FOOD FROM THE FUTURE



The Futurist Cookbook
Filippo Tommaso Marinetti
Penguin Classics

With the ingredients we have today, we can create flavor profiles from different times. All it takes is the guts to mix the unthinkable, like putting bananas and anchovies between two slices of buttered bread. The idea was Filippo Tommaso Marinetti's, an Italian thinker who published *The Futurist Cookbook* in 1931. Much more than a compilation of instructions for creating a perfect dish from the future, it is a cooking manifesto. The founder of the Futurist movement starts his avant garde work by stating his deep hatred for pasta, which he argues is "completely hostile to the vivacious spirit and the passionate, generous, intuitive soul of the Neapolitans." Marinetti proposes a concept relying on a reckless and audacious essence, from which he designs a couple dozen themed dinners, such as *Geographic Dinner* or *Astronomical Dinner*, each requiring a bizarre combination of ingredients plated in unusual ways, so as to please the eye as well as the mouth. For instance, in *Declaration of Love Dinner*, the author suggests recipes to express love for someone, serving them slices of chicken topped with cherry jam on a plate made from a mirror—so that they can admire themselves as they eat. Other peculiar recipes include the *Tennis Chop*, a veal cutlet cut in the form of a racket, traced with lines of tomato sauce mixed with rum, a thick paste of mascarpone with chopped nuts and, to make the handle, an anchovy topped with a banana slice. As if this wasn't odd enough, Marinetti says it should be served with cherries rolled in a paste of ricotta, egg, cheese and nutmeg—can you truly play tennis without balls? The result is an intricate mixture of flavors and textures, a true creation from the future (or the past?).

Girls Twiddling Knobs

WOMEN MAKING MUSIC WITH TECHNOLOGY

It's not often that someone says that they found their mission—or life's purpose, if you are willing to go that far—in their youth. Isobel Anderson is one of the exceptions, one of the lucky ones that quickly came to realize music was her happy place. After releasing four studio albums, the next step in her career seemed clear: it was time to pass on the immense knowledge she had gathered. And because she is an expert in making art for our ears, the result was a podcast designed to discuss both the good and bad in music making. *Girls Twiddling Knobs* hit Spotify and Apple Podcasts in November

of 2020. Since then, Isobel has encouraged women in the music industry who struggle with creativity issues and internal self-doubt, but mostly contributed her experience of recording and production. During weekly episodes, topics from activism in the industry to finding a sponsor to finance musical projects are discussed by Isobel and the occasional guest.

While *Girls Twiddling Knobs* answers questions about the production process, *Level with Emily Reese* is all about discussing the final product. When it comes to callings, Emily Reese had two, and that's how this podcast came to be. After a long career in radio, she decided to start her own project in which she could devote herself to her fierce curiosity for video games. In *Level with Emily Reese*, the host dives deep into music and sound effects in video games (from mainstream *League of Legends* to niche *Vampyr*), but also invites prominent musicians, producers and voice actors to talk about the process of creating a remarkable score.

Get inspired by listening to the podcasts
Girls Twiddling Knobs & *Level with Emily Reese*

04 HEAR

THE CALLING

05 SMELL

LIQUID LOVE

What makes someone attractive? The explanation is insufferably complicated and it would be impossible to find one answer that is true for everyone.

And yet, there are a few key aspects that make one easily charming, such as scent—and we're not talking about an expensive fragrance.

Pheromones are naturally produced bodily chemicals that can influence behavior. For example, a pheromone can cause people to be attracted to or even sexually aroused by the person producing an almost imperceptible scent. While some perfumes can have an effect on our appeal, pheromones work at a much more biological and uncontrollable level. What if we could extract this love potion and bottle it? Surprise! It's been done by a few companies, including Pure Instinct, which came up with their first formula back in 1985. Their main formula consists of androstadienone, a component of male sweat, and copulin, which is extracted from vaginal secretions. Despite its peculiar composition, the perfume, which can be purchased on Amazon, has a fruity and earthy scent—it also contains mango, vanilla, and cinnamon essence. Thanks to TikTok and other social media platforms, pheromone perfume has been trending in the past few months and some reviews report it can turn someone into a sex magnet, easily bewitching whoever they've set out to win over.

