

Edible beads

FORAGING FOR FASHION



Unripe apricots



Pistachios

Gönül Paksoy approaches art from a different angle, incorporating all that she knows about science and design. She looks at beauty through nature, looking at “flowers more beautiful than Aphrodite”, and the fruits used as indicators of romance and objects of desire – “cheeks like apples, lips like cherries”.

Designer, collector, and experimental chef, Gönül actually started her career in chemistry, and moved into textiles with a PhD in natural dyeing. She creates wearable pieces from antique Turkish and Ottoman textiles, and covetable items, such as bags, jewellery, and her childhood inspired ragdolls.

Now Gönül has moved into a new area, producing a book of her edible beads. These unusual adornments combine her design sensibility with her passion for experimental cooking to create perishable, but somehow timeless pieces, that speak of the transient nature of beauty.

Gönül cites wearing cherries on her ears as a child as the inspiration for the collection and book, “Did you ever put on cherry earrings?” she asks playfully. Many of the fruits she uses, chesnuts, rosehips, and radishes, are found in the British Isles. Others are more exotic – feioja, medlar and a charming crystallised sugar necklace.

In the back of the book are recipes that take the ingredients used in some of the necklaces and turn them into delicious sounding dishes; prawns with dried apples, brussel sprouts with ginger and a dry squash stuffed with crushed chickpea humus. When the work was first displayed at a conference in Istanbul in 2007 it was quite literally devoured by those in attendance! ●●● **Primrose Tricker**

Gönül Paksoy, Yenilebilir Boncuklar / Edible Beads, photography Reyhan Eksi, ISBN: 978-975-93222-4-3, available from the Selvedge bookshop, £80, www.selvedge.org

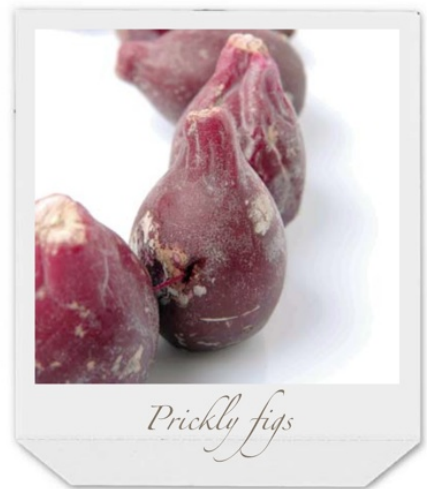




Cranberries



Pepper



Prickly figs

Only flowers more beautiful than Aphrodite, goddess of beauty, can compete with her... but fruit should take part in this competition.



Either wear a laurel crown on your head or wear a pair of cherry earrings. By the way, did you ever put on cherry earrings?

