

# CHERRY BOMBE

*Issue No 4*





# SHE HAS OUR VOTE

MEET JULIA SHERMAN,  
THE BLOGGER  
& ARTIST BEHIND  
SALAD FOR PRESIDENT

*story by Jessica Schiffer  
photo by Emily Wren*

While art can often confound the viewer, food is pretty straightforward. So what happens, then, when you merge the two? Artist and photographer Julia Sherman has been exploring this intersection since 2011 on her blog Salad for President, a space that celebrates the versatile salad as ultimate meal, placing it in the hands of various creative influencers to see where their particular visions might lead in a new realm: the kitchen.

Sherman thinks of that room as her second studio, “one that feels effortlessly productive and satisfying in the times when my [art] studio is trying.” And while salads are sometimes associated with self-discipline and deprivation, Sherman aims to buck that reputation. Instead, she suggests salad as “indulgent, artful and thoughtful; it shouldn’t be about restraint or good behavior.”

Her creative energy is shared by those in Sherman’s orbit, a handful of whom work at MoMA PS1 in Long Island City and invited her to set up shop on the museum’s rooftop, where she and urban farmer Camilla Hammer planted an herb and vegetable garden. “Museums should foster an expanded notion of what defines someone as an ‘artist,’” Sherman noted. With this in mind, she invited a new visual artist to the roof each week to design a salad with seasonal ingredients and afterwards interviewed them about the interests and passions that lay outside

their professional practice. These could be as varied as tennis, bird watching and dumpster diving. Cult chocolatiers the Mast Brothers topped off the experience sweetly, providing Sherman with the papery shells of their cocoa beans to be used as mulch in the garden. The resultant rich, warm scent had our own editors wondering if there was perhaps a real-life Wonka Factory close by.

When asked to choose some especially memorable moments, Sherman cites visual artist-cum-musician Hisham Bharoocha’s appearance. Showing up with a pack of close friends and a mobile kitchen, the artist’s blistered shishito peppers and elaborate soba noodle salad were tough to forget. Photographer Liz Deschenes also stands out for having brought her gallery’s entire staff in an effort to thank them for their hard work.

Though the garden project came to a close mid-fall, Sherman and her insatiable curiosity have plans to take it elsewhere: “I like the idea of the project traveling—opening the door to artists I’ve never met, and regional salads I’ve never tasted.” Until then, you can get a taste of the experience at her blog, where each meal has been documented, complete with recipes you can try at home.

[saladforpresident.com](http://saladforpresident.com)