

Mobile Arts Curriculum



A Hand Full of Wheat Seeds

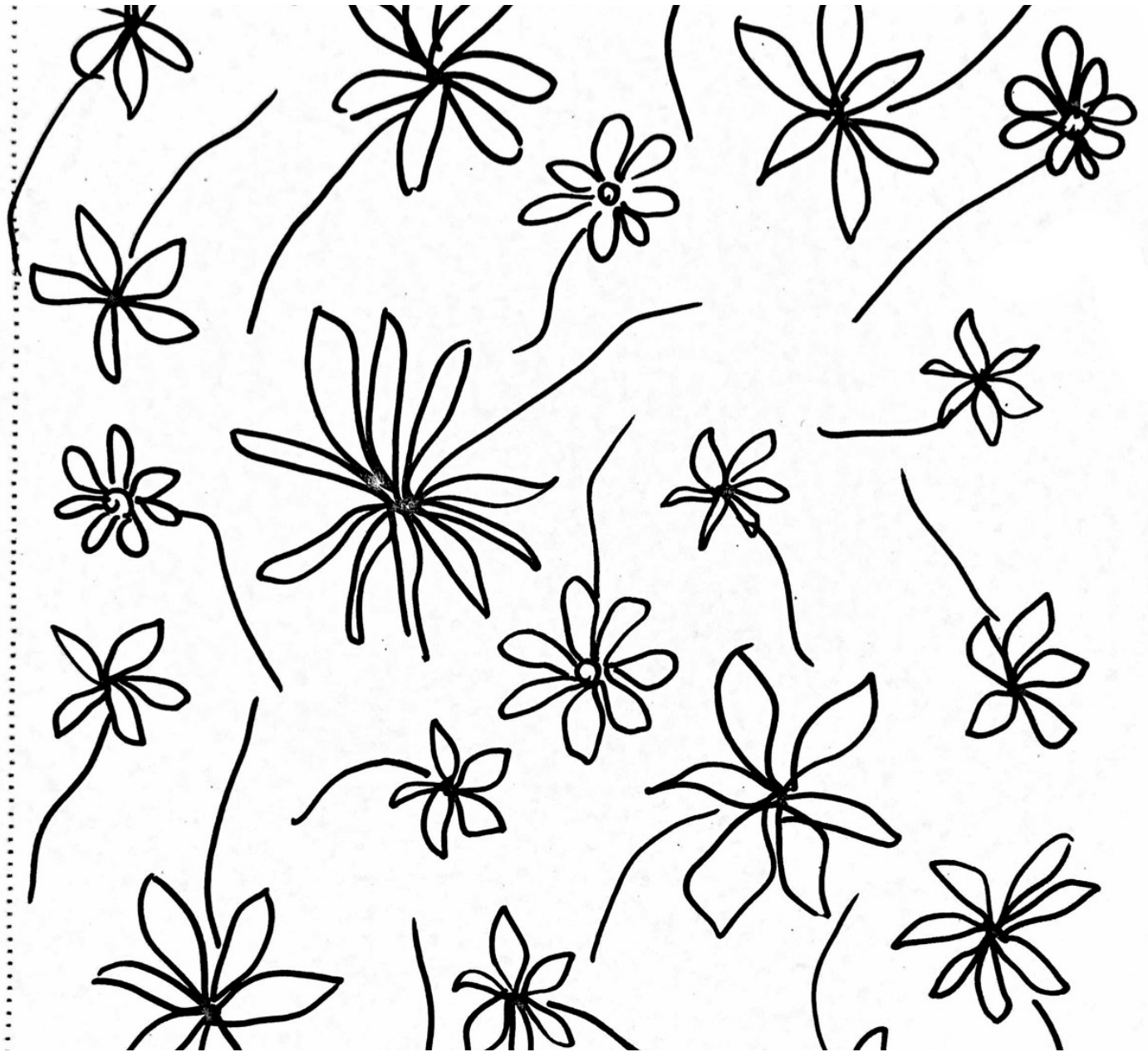


Illustration from *A Hand Full of Wheat Seeds*.

SUGGESTED AGE/GRADE:

K-12, Families, All Ages

CURRICULUM LINKS:

The Arts, English, Social Studies, History, Geography, Canadian and World Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities

KEYWORDS:

Ancestor, domestic, dowry, tradition, Queer, matriarchal, iconography, familial, transmission of knowledge, geography, heirloom, history, Anatolian, dowry

CONTEXT

In this MAC Tool, **Derya Akay** invites guests to their installation, a celebration of ancestral, queer, and matriarchal forms.

Visitors will experience the preparation for the celebration, encountering artefacts and iconography associated with the artist's own relations to their communities through the use of textiles, flowers, ceramics, cookies, preserves and other materials.

The MAC Tool includes:

- A recipe from the artist's own grandmother
- A treasure hunt
- A colouring book, with sketches by the artist

The colouring book images will spark curiosity, subvert expectations, and challenge concepts of domesticity embedded in the art. The images may speak to intercultural exchange and awareness; they are playful, and meant to spark the conversations found in preparation of a celebration. The iconography found in these materials are coded with stories of differing communities and lineages, including Derya's own familial ties.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Derya Akay (born in 1988, Istanbul, Turkey; lives in Vancouver, Canada) is an artist living on the unceded territories of the x̣ẉṃə̣θ̣ḳẉə̣ỵəm, Ṣḳẉx̣ wú7mesh, and sə̣lḷẉə̣ṭə̣ʔ / Tsleil-Waututh Nations. Selected recent exhibitions include *Meydan*, Polygon Gallery, North Vancouver (2021); *Contact Traces*, the CCA Wattis Institute, San Francisco (2021); *The Neighbour's Plate*, Unit 17, Vancouver (2020); *The Lulennial II: A Low-Hanging Fruit*, Lulu, Mexico City (2018); *HERE*, the Aga Khan Museum, Toronto (2017); *with bread*, Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River (2017); and *Pumice*, Del Vaz Projects, Los Angeles (2017).

Queer Dowry, site-specific installation, 2022. Commissioned by the Toronto Biennial of Art. Located at the Small Arms Inspection Building.

FURTHER READING

- [1] Akay, Derya, Nadia Belerique, and Corrie Jackson. "TBA x RBC Emerging Artists Virtual Event." Toronto Biennial of Art and RBC Foundation's Emerging Canadian Artist Program. youtu.be/BMlcozjegJk.
- [2] Delany, Carol. *The Seed and the Soil: Gender and Cosmology in Turkish Village Society*. Oakland: University of California Press, 1991.
- [3] Fukuoka, Masanobu. *The One-Straw Revolution: An Introduction to Natural Farming*. New York: NYRB Classics, 2009.
- [4] Gaul, A., Pitts, G.A., & Valosik, V. (Eds.) *Making Levantine Cuisine: Modern Foodways of the Eastern Mediterranean*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2021.
- [5] Kemal, Yaşar. *Memed, My Hawk*. London: Collins and Harvill Press, 1961.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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