

VEGAN RAMEN WITH A POLAR BEAR

YUKI MATSUMURA

Yuki Matsumura's bowl of vegan ramen puts the issue of global warming in the diner's face—while also capturing the attention of children and awakening their appetite. Matsumura, a vegan and vegetarian food blogger based in Tokyo, chose to make the polar bear—also a symbol of global warming—the centerpiece of her ramen, which uses a vegetable-based broth as its foundation. She shaped the polar bear out of grated daikon; to position it in the bowl, she made the bear a “chair” out of a chunk of carrot, and attached the bear's arms only after all of the other ingredients had been added. The finished dish is a somehow adorable portrait of confrontation, a polar bear bathing in a steadily warming sea.

