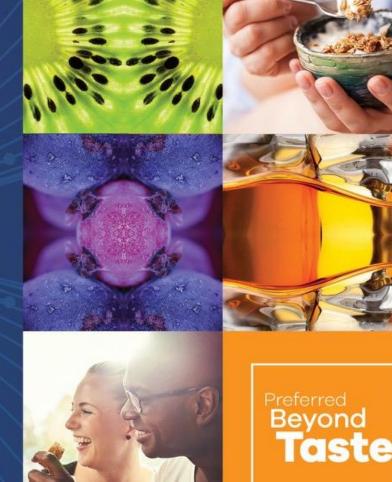
Eating With Your Eyes

The Psychology of Color: Flavor and Emotions

Mikel Cirkus Global Creative Director, Flavors





Driven By The Senses

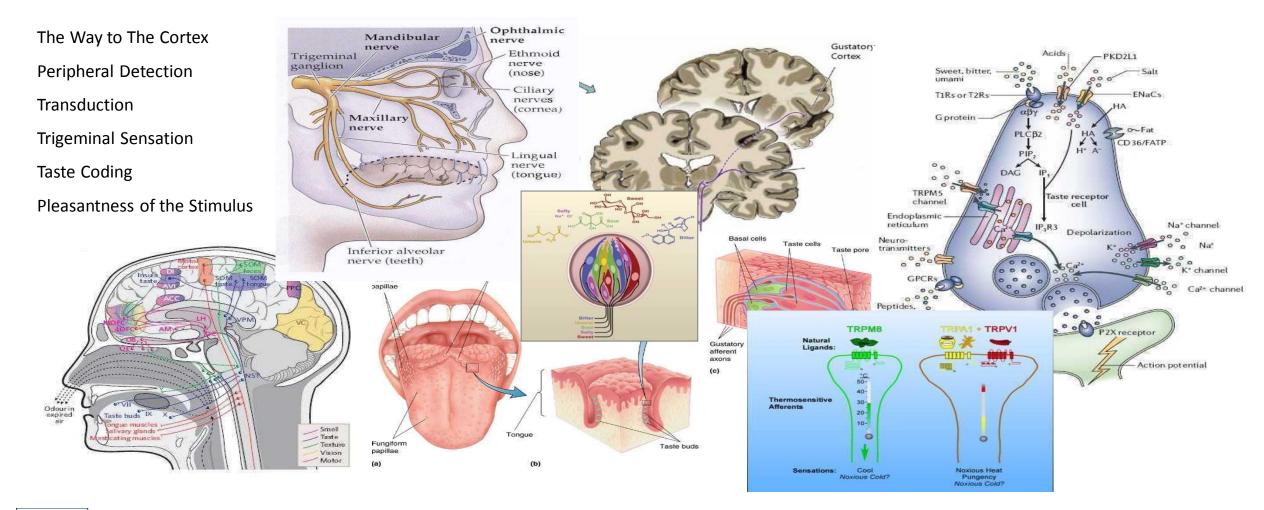








Taste Pathways







Flavor Perception



Stimulus/Application





All these aspects contribute to **create and modulate** the flavor perception

Subject			
Gender, Age			
Internal State (sated, hungry)			
Expectation			
Context			
Cultural & Religious Habits			
Memory			
Food-related pathologies (obesity, depression			



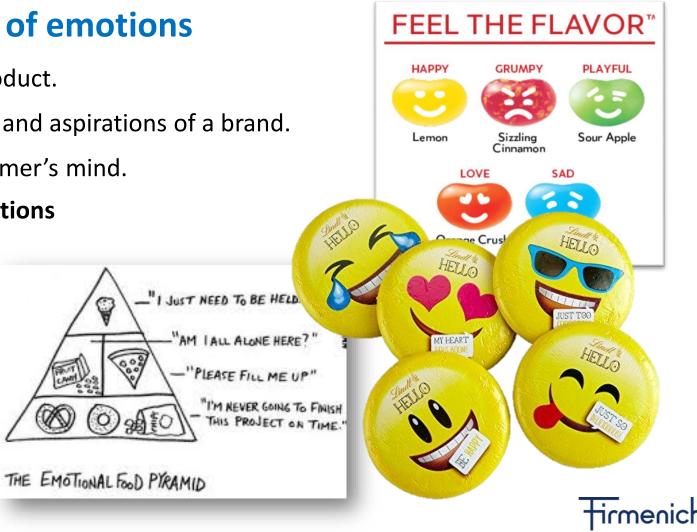


Flavors and Emotions

The role of flavors as vectors of emotions

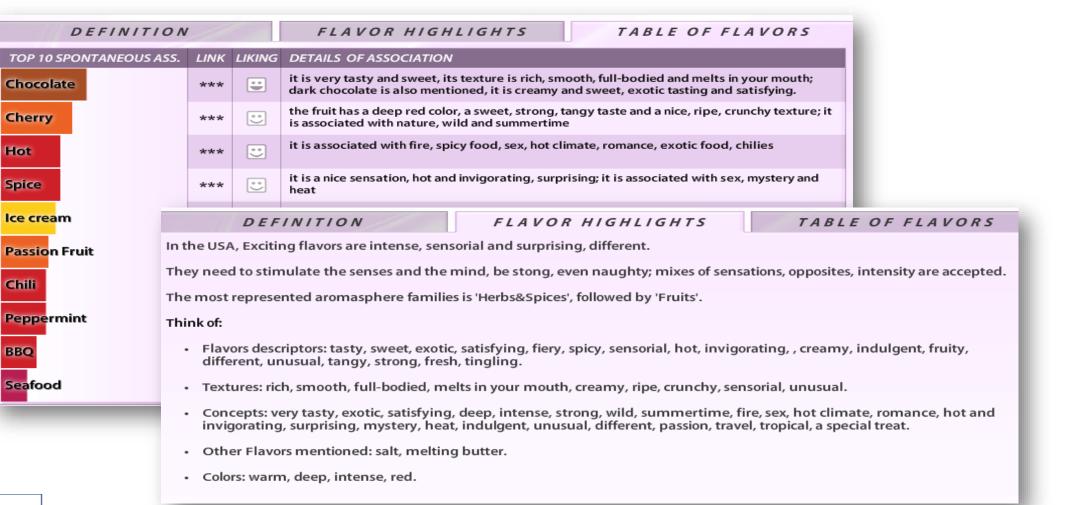
- Intimately linked to the story of the product.
- Deliver satisfaction by bridging dreams and aspirations of a brand.
- Create a positive footprint in the consumer's mind.
- Flavors are intimately linked with emotions







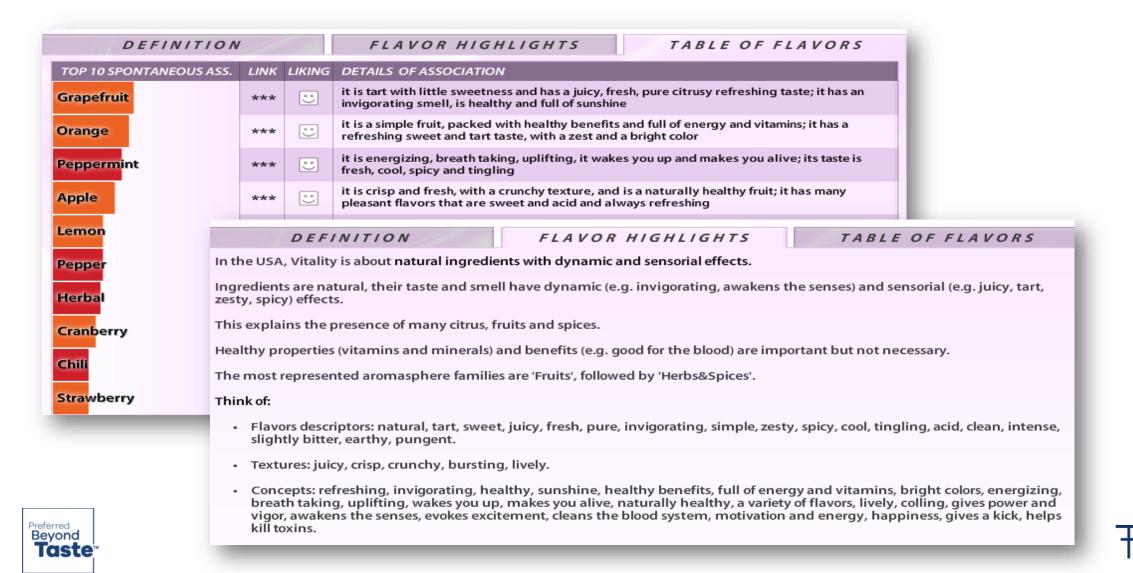
Flavors and Emotions **EXCITEMENT**







Flavors and Emotions VITALITY



Living Languages How Color Speaks to Flavor

- Stimulates demand for flavor newness
- Engages with a brand's emotional positioning
- Influences food & beverage packaging
- Evolves advertising imagery
- **Distinguishes** flankers from originals
- Drives flavor ingredient call-outs
- Inspires culinary creativity
- Informs graphic design
- Aligns consumer expectations with taste experience







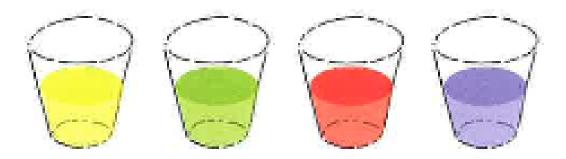
Taste is an experience.



Which drink tastes sweeter?

Which drink tastes like strawberry?





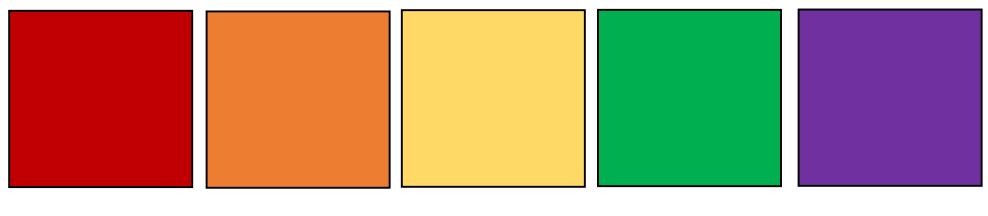




Flavor is perception.



ACAI



POMEGRANATE TURMERIC GINGER MATCHA





Black Taste Test



Morgenstern's, NYC



Dasher & Crank, Miami









- Black is associated with fear and the unknown (black holes).
- Black usually has a negative connotation (blacklist, black humor, 'black death').
- Black denotes strength and authority.
- Considered to be a very formal, elegant, and prestigious color (black tie)
- Black contrasts well with bright colors.



Häagen-Dazs



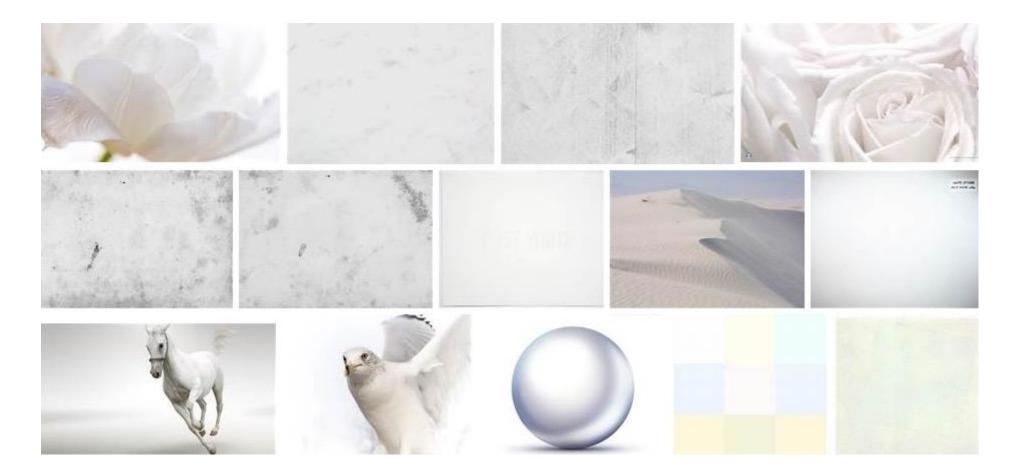












Preferred Beyond Taste™





WHITE Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- Associated with light, goodness, innocence, purity, and virginity.
- It is considered to be the color of **perfection.**
- White means safety, purity, and cleanliness. As opposed to black, white usually has a positive connotation.
- White can represent a successful beginning.
- In advertising, white is associated with coolness and cleanliness because it's the color of snow.
- White is often associated with low weight, low-fat food, and dairy products.
 - Western: Brides, angels, peace (white dove) hospitals, doctors.
 - For Bedouin and other pastoral cultures, there is a strong connection between milk and white, which is considered the color of gratitude, esteem, joy, good fortune and fertility
 - Eastern: Yang (Bright, Sun, Masculine)
 Often associated to funerals but also, children, marriage, peace, travel

China: Death, mourning

Japan: White carnation symbolizes death.

India: Unhappiness. It is the color of purity, divinity, detachment and serenity.





WHITE Food & Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Dairy products (yoghurt, cream, ricotta)
- Coconut water
- White tea
- White chocolate
- Vanilla
- Mangosteen
- Litchi
- Rice, Oats
- Almonds
- Jasmine
- Elderflower
- Marshmallow

Conceptual Links

- Pure
- Simple
- High-quality/ Elegant
- Light (zero)
- Transparent (nude)
- Peaceful, innocent
- Soft
- Frost, Cold



Product Illustration













Primitive Power – Raw Energy - Spark of Action





RED Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- Associated with war, danger, strength, power, determination as well as passion, desire, and love.
- Red is a **very emotionally intense color**. It <u>enhances human metabolism</u>, increases respiration rate, and <u>raises blood pressure</u>. It has very **high visibility** (ie: stop signs, stoplights, and fire equipment).
- In advertising, Red is often used to evoke erotic feelings (red lips, red nails, red-light districts, etc.).
- Red is widely used to indicate **danger** (high voltage signs, traffic lights). This color is also commonly associated with **energy**, so you can use it when promoting energy drinks, games, cars, items related to sports and high physical activity.
 - Western: Excitement, danger, love, passion, stop, Christmas, Valentine's Day
 - Eastern: Worn by brides, happiness and prosperity China: Good luck, celebration.
 - Australian Aboriginals: Land, earth
 - India: Purity
 - South Africa: Color of mourning





RED Food & Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Spices (e.g.paprika, cinnamon)
- Chili
- Guarana
- Red Apple
- Strawberry
- Cherry
- Grenadine
- Cranberry
- Pomegranate
- Redcurrant
- Hibiscus
- Tomato
- Red Wine
- Rooibos
- Red Meat/bacon

Conceptual Links

- Spicy
- Stimulating
- Fiery
- Expressive
- Exotic
- Passionate
- Rebel
- Concentrated
- Fun
- Active

















Solar – Optimistic- Attentive



YELLOW Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- The color of sunshine. It's associated with joy, happiness, intellect, and energy.
- Yellow produces a warming effect, arouses cheerfulness, stimulates mental activity, and generates muscle energy.
- Yellow is often associated with food.
- Use yellow to evoke pleasant, cheerful feelings.
- You can choose yellow to promote children's products and items related to leisure.
- Yellow is very effective for attracting attention, use it to highlight the most important elements of your design.
- Yellow is an unstable and spontaneous color, so avoid using yellow if you want to suggest stability and safety.
 - Western: Hope, Happiness.
 - Eastern: Proof against evil, for the dead, sacred, imperial <u>China:</u> Nourishing, royalty. <u>Korea:</u> symbolised aspects of nature, pride, safety and accomplishment
 - India: color of the Vaisya caste, or farmers; Hindus wear it to celebrate the Festival of Spring.
 - Egypt: : In ancient times, immortality. Today it's the color of mourning



Nikon





YELLOW Food & Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Lemon
- Pineapple
- Tropical mix
- Starfruit
- Ginger
- Curry
- Corn
- Banana
- Mustard

Conceptual Links

- Energy
- Life /Active life
- Sunshine
- Happy, Optimism
- Vitality (positive wellbeing)
- Summer
- Holidays

Product Illustration









Harmony – Natural Balance - Growth





GREEN Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- The color directly related to **nature**. It symbolizes growth, harmony, freshness, and fertility.
- Green has strong emotional correspondence with safety. (drug / medical products)
- Dark green is also commonly associated with money.
- Green has great healing power. It is the most restful color for the human eye.
- Green suggests stability and endurance.
- Sometimes green denotes lack of experience; for example, a 'greenhorn' is a novice.
 - Western: Spring, new birth, money / Means "go."
 When "all systems are green " it means everything is in order. <u>Ireland:</u> Symbol of the entire country
 - Eastern : Eternity, family, health, prosperity, peace <u>China:</u> Green hats are associated with infidelity <u>Japan:</u> Life
 - Islamic: Perfect faith, nature and life.







GREEN Food and Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Herbs: Basil, Mint, Dill, Thyme, Parsley, Cilantro
- Green Tea, Matcha
- Wheatgrass
- Lime > Mojito
- Cucumber
- Aloe
- Green Apple
- Avocado
- Kiwi
- Vegetables: kale, broccoli, bamboo, spinach, edamame
- Wasabi
- Stevia

Conceptual Links

- Natural / Natural energy
- Bio
- Sustainable/Ecological
- Healthy, good for you
- Refreshing
- Clean
- Detox
- Vegetarian/Vegan
- Living / Life





irmenich













Stability – Strength – Calm - Loyalty



BLUE Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- The color of the sky and sea. It is often associated with **depth and stability**.
- It symbolizes trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence, faith, truth, and heaven.
- Blue is considered beneficial to the mind and body. It <u>slows human metabolism and</u> produces a calming effect.
- Blue is strongly associated with tranquility and calmness.

Beyond Taste

- You can use blue to promote products and services related to cleanliness
- Blue is a masculine color; according to studies, it is highly accepted among males.
- Avoid using blue when promoting food and cooking, because blue suppresses appetite.
 - Western: Conservative, corporate; "something blue" bridal tradition.
 - Eastern: Wealth, self-cultivation <u>China</u>: Immortality <u>Japan</u>: Courage
 - India: In Hinduism, deities are shown as having blue or dusky skin
 - Iran: Color of heaven and spirituality



BLUE Food and Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Mint/Menthol
- Water
- Seaweed
- Mixed Berries
- Blueberry
- Blue Raspberry
- Fantasy tonalities
- Vanilla



Conceptual Links

- Cold/cooling
- Fresh
- Ice/ Frost
- Lean/light
- Well-being: relaxed, harmony
- Marine
- Hydrating/Watery
- Cosmic
- Clean





When Blue and Green Become One





Many languages do not differentiate between certain colors on the visible spectrum and do not have separate terms for blue and green.



The Japanese word ao, can refer to either blue or green depending on the situation.









Universal Flow - Wisdom - Dignity



PURPLE Symbolic and Cultural Differences

- Purple combines the stability of blue and the energy of red.
- Purple is associated with royalty. It symbolizes power, nobility, luxury, and ambition.
- It conveys wealth and extravagance.
- Purple is associated with wisdom, dignity, independence, creativity, mystery, and magic.
- According to surveys, almost 75% of pre-adolescent children prefer purple to all other colors.
- Purple is a very rare color in nature; some people consider it to be **artificial**.
 - Western: Royalty, Luxury, Justice
 'Purple Haze' refers to a state of drug-induced euphoria
 - Eastern Wealth
 - <u>Japan</u>: Violet signifies wealth and power <u>Tibet</u>: Amethyst is considered sacred to Buddha <u>Thailand</u>: Mourning, widows



















PURPLE Food and Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Blackberry
- Grape
- Fig
- Mangosteen
- Violet
- Lavender
- Açai

Preferred Beyond

Taste

Purple Vegetables: Red onion, Beetroot, Eggplant



Conceptual Links

- Antioxidants
- Superfruits
- Well-being: Relaxing
- Premium
- Sophisticated
- Rare/Unique
- Magical
- Spiritual
- Cosmic
- Funky

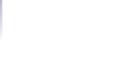
















- Associated with joy, sunshine, and the tropics.
- Orange represents enthusiasm, fascination, happiness, creativity, determination, attraction, success, encouragement, and stimulation.
- To the human eye, orange is a very hot color, so it gives the sensation of heat. Nevertheless, orange is not as aggressive as red.
- Orange <u>increases oxygen supply to the brain, produces an invigorating effect, and stimulates mental</u> <u>activity</u>.
- It is highly accepted among young people.
- As a citrus color, orange is associated with healthy food and stimulates appetite.
- Orange is the color of fall and harvest.
- Orange is very effective for promoting **food products and toys**.





ORANGE Flavor and Emotion

Emotion Relationship to the Emotion

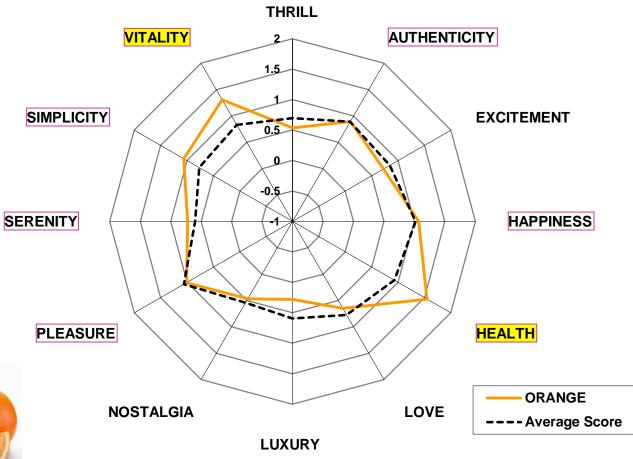
Respondents associated the energizing and refreshing, zesty aspects of the Orange with Vitality. They also mentioned the bright color, and sweet tartness as relevant to Vitality.

HEALTH

VITALITY

The Orange's famed richness in Vitamin C was strongly associated with Health. It was described as "packed with healthy benefits," crisp clean and sweet, often associated with orange juice.







ORANGE Food and Beverage Implications

Key Ingredients

- Citrus
- Mango
- Apricot
- Passionfruit
- Melon
- Ginger
- Carrot
- Pumpkin
- Bell pepper

Conceptual Links

- Energy
- Sunshine
- Happy, fun
- Vitality (positive well-being)
- Crisp, tangy
- Vivacious
- Bold
- Fruits and juices
- Summer







ORANGE

Apricot	Candlelight	Sunrise	Amber
Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
PANTONE 138	PANTONE 137	PANTONE 1375	PANTONE 1385
Macaroni and Cheese Orange PANTONE 157	Pumpkin Orange PANTONE 158	Orangutan Orange PANTONE 159	Sherbert Orange PANTONE 1575
Goldfish	Monarch	Ginger	Carrot
Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
PANTONE 166	PANTONE 165	PANTONE 164	PANTONE 1665
Tangerine	Melon	Basketball	Papaya
Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
PANTONE 1655	PANTONE 1645	PANTONE 173	PANTONE 172

PANTONE[®]

Which of these are not a Flavor or a Fragrance?



Multisensory Design

- What message do you want to convey?
- Who is the consumer?
- Can a unique color be developed to support the brand? Or can the brand's signature shade be combined with another hue to achieve distinction?
- Where do trends in color fit in? Do you have all of the information you need to make your color decisions?
- With so many products in the market, will the colors you have chosen separate you from your competition?
- BE UNIQUE!









Color Speaks Louder Than Words

Food, more than anything else, has contributed to changes in individual societies and the integration of different cultures.

Through color, texture, taste and smell, we discover new civilizations. And through color, texture and taste, we explore and discover.

The way we choose to eat is in continual evolution, and is very often influenced by taste - and color.







Thank You!

Mikel Cirkus Global Creative Director, Flavors mikel.cirkus@firmenich.com





@MCirkus #mikelcirkus

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