

# Tahini-Miso Glazed Eggplant

Here's a delightfully delicious way to showcase gorgeous Asian eggplant now in season.

Recipe inspired by Hetty McKinnon's Ginger Scallion Glazed Eggplant, *To Asia with Love*. This book is well worth the purchase even if you only use her amazing essential sauce and oil recipes.

## Ingredients

- 4 Japanese Eggplants, halved lengthwise
- 1 TBL Toasted Sesame Oil
- 1 TBL of white miso paste
- 1 TBL maple syrup
- 3-4 TBL of Ginger Scallion Oil ( see below)
- 2 teaspoons of Sesame Seeds
- 1 Scallion Finely Chopped
- A handful of Cilantro Leaves

## Directions

### Step 1

Preheat oven to 375°. Brush both sides of eggplant slices with oil and place on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Roast eggplant, flipping once, until very tender, about 20 minutes. Remove from oven. Arrange a rack in the upper third of the oven and heat to broil.

### Step 2

Meanwhile, whisk white miso, maple syrup, and Ginger-Scallion oil in a small bowl. Stir in 1 1/2 tsp. sesame seeds and 2 Tbsp. scallions. Smear a layer of the sauce on the cut side of each eggplant slice. Broil until golden and charred in places,

4–5 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle with remaining 1 1/2 tsp. sesame seeds and 1 Tbsp. scallions.

Serve with steamed rice and a side of pan roasted broccoli.

### **Ginger Scallion Oil**

- 5 ounces of finely chopped peeled ginger
- 6 scallions finely sliced, white and green parts separated
- 1 TBL tamari or coconut aminos
- 2 teaspoons of salt
- 1 ¼ cup of grapeseed or other neutral oil

In a heatproof bowl combine the ginger, white of the scallions, tamari, and sea salt.

Warm oil on medium heat for 3-4 minutes. Carefully pour into the bowl. Allow to cool, add the green part of the scallions, stir to combine, use for the recipe, and store remainder in a glass jar in the fridge.

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## **Buckwheat Raisin Bread**

For nearly a decade of my life, Saturdays meant *roisenbrot* day from Mahl Zahn Backerei in Neuenheim, Heidelberg. Picking up a loaf generally involved a morning walk across Bruckenstrasse with Sophie our Bernese Mountain Dog stopping traffic as she languished along behind Sebastian's *kinderwagon*. Although we've said farewell to Sophie and gluten since those days and there was never a replacement for Sophie's big heart I think I finally found a Gluten-free Roisienbrot that stands the Mahl Zahn test. Thanks once again to Aran Goyoaga for the inspiration.

You may be pleased to learn there's no sourdough involved so you can make this bread tonight if you have an enamel cast iron dutch oven handy. This workhorse of the kitchen makes every oven a bread oven including my countertop toaster oven. I hope you enjoy this bread as much as we do. Close your eyes with the first bite and you might even see the Heidelberg castle.

## Ingredients

- 500 g (2  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup) of plant-based milk, I use almond
- 3 TBL of maple syrup, date syrup, or honey
- 1 TBL yeast
- 3 TBL Psyllium Husks
- 240 g Buckwheat Flour ( 2 cups)
- 120 g Tapioca Starch ( 1 cup)
- Grated zest from one lemon
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tea cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{4}$  tea cardamon
- 1.5 tea salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup raisins
- 1 TBL sesame seeds

## Directions

1. Weigh all dry ingredients and place in the bowl of a stand mixer or food processor. Blend briefly to mix.
2. In a saucepan, gently warm milk to 110 degrees, add sweetener, and yeast, whisking to combine. Allow yeast to activate until frothy. Add psyllium husks and allow 5 minutes to gel.
3. Pour wet ingredients into dry and process or mix for 2 minutes. The dough will be sticky.
4. Turn out onto a floured board knead in raisins and form into a ball.
5. Gently placed in flour and sesame seed-dusted bowl or

proofing basket to rise, cover with a damp towel, and set aside for 45-60 minutes depending on air temperature.

6. 30 minutes prior to baking place the dutch oven with the lid on the rack and preheat the oven to 450 degrees.
7. When the dough is ready to bake gently slide it into the hot dutch oven, cover, and place in the oven for 30 minutes. Reduce heat to 400 degrees, remove lid from dutch oven and continue baking another 30 minutes.
8. Despite temptation otherwise, cool this loaf completely before slicing. Cut in slices for toast or into quarters for freezing. Warm gently at 175 degrees for 20 minutes prior to serving.

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## Tomato Glazed Cauliflower

I really did not believe there was a cauliflower recipe I had not tried and then along came this one, and wow! It is so yummy and so simple I'd make it again tomorrow!

Inspired by 177Milk Street, Tomato Braised Cauliflower, Rebecca Richmond

### Ingredients

- 1 large head of cauliflower cut into small florets of similar size
- 1 whole yellow onion, peeled, halved, and thinly sliced
- Olive oil
- Salt and Pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of tomato paste
- A pinch or two of red pepper flakes
- A handful of raisins
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tea of cinnamon

- 2 TBL of honey
- Cubes or Crumbles of Vegan Feta
- Chopped toasted almonds
- Steamed Rice

## Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees
2. Toss cauliflower pieces with olive oil and season liberally with salt and pepper. Place on a baking sheet (do not crowd) and roast 15-18 minutes. Edges should brown and pieces should be just fork tender but still hold their shape.
3. While the cauliflower roasts heat a heavy skillet with a splash or two of olive oil over medium heat. Add onion and saute until soft. Push onion aside and add tomato paste and pepper flakes allowing the paste to darken and thicken further. Add cinnamon, honey, and raisins mixing well. Tip roasted cauliflower pieces into the pan and stir gently to coat each piece.
5. Serve with rice and top with feta and chopped almonds.

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## Simple One Bowl Vegan GF Cake

Borrowed and adapted from Aran Goyoaga Cannelle et Vanille, this is the perfect Saturday cake. Whip it up just after lunch so it will be ready to slice with a cup of tea late afternoon. Adaptable recipes are my thing and this cake stands in well with a variety of seasonal fruits. So far I have tested lemon blueberry, almond cherry, and peach all equally delicious. Bake in a 9 " springform pan or cast-iron skillet.

# Ingredients

- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or 115 grams of olive oil
- 1 cup or 140 grams of superfine brown rice flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$  or 150 grams of coconut sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup or 30grams of tapioca starch
- 1.5 t baking powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$  t salt
- Finely grated zest from a lemon, lime or orange
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or 115 grams of almond milk
- Egg replacer for two eggs ( I've tested this with Bob's Redmill)
- 1 T of vanilla, or  $\frac{1}{2}$  tea of vanilla powder, or almond extract
- Fresh fruit to top such as 6 peaches or plums, a handful or two of pitted cherries, 8 ounces of blue or other berries.
- Powder sugar for dusting

# Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Brush cake pan or skillet with oil and press a circle of parchment paper in the base.
3. In a large mixing bowl combine all of the dry ingredients. Then add wet ingredients and extract
4. Mix well.
5. Pour batter into pan, carefully placing fruit on top.
6. Slide into the preheated oven. Check after 50 minutes with a toothpick.
7. Allow cake to cool before serving.

If there's something to celebrate, and there is always something, you might consider taking it up a notch with whipped coconut cream or a scoop of vegan vanilla ice cream.

I also think it's worth experimenting with flours considering

oat flour or buckwheat in place of the brown rice.

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# Saffron Pumpkin Soup

**The saffron in this Saffron Pumpkin soup adds touch of elegance that will make it seem like you've made a gourmet restaurant style soup – because you just did!**

## Seed Topping

- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup pumpkin seeds
- 2 tsp maple syrup
- A pinch of red pepper flakes

1. Set oven at 350 degrees.
2. Toss seeds together in a bowl and spread on a parchment paper-covered sheet pan.
3. Roast in the oven for 10 mins. Allow to cool and store in an airtight container until use.

## Soup

- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of olive oil
- 1 large onion, peeled and sliced
- Medium pumpkin or butternut squash seeded and cubed
- Salt and Pepper

1. Set oven to 450 degrees
2. Toss oil, onion, pumpkin and place on parchment paper covered sheet pan. Season with salt and pepper. Roast

until edges darken and fork-tender.

3. In stockpot heat together

- 1 liter of veggie broth
- $\frac{1}{4}$  tea of saffron threads
- Zest from one orange
- A pinch or two of harissa depending on spice preference
- Bunch of kale, removed from stalks and chiffonade cut, blanched
- 1 can of chickpeas, drained
- A handful of cilantro, leaves removed and chopped

When the pumpkin is roasted tip into stock, add kale and chickpeas. Heat until warm but do not cook further. Divide into bowls, sprinkle with cilantro and seeds, serve and enjoy!

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## Zuchinni Baba Ganoush

This is one of those amazingly simple recipes with delightful complex flavors. Perhaps you could serve it alongside of this sourdough gluten free bread?

### Ingredients

- 5 medium zucchini
- 3 heaping tablespoons of tahini
- A splash or two of olive oil
- Juice from two lemons
- Zest from 1 lemon
- 1 teaspoon of smoked paprika
- A clove of garlic and handful of mint (optional)
- Sea Salt
- Water to thin if needed



## Directions

Broil zucchini whole on a rack in the middle of your oven for 45-60 minutes, or until they begin to collapse. Turn with tongs every 15 mins.

Allow to cool completely

Scrape flesh out of skins and into a colander, sprinkle with salt and allow to drain over a bowl.

In your food processor combine the remaining ingredients, withholding water until you see if it is needed to thin the dip. Add drained zucchini and pulse until blended.

## Topping

- A handful of Pine Nuts
- 1 tablespoon of Vegan Butter

In a small skillet toast pine nuts over medium heat, add vegan butter and toss to coat. Use as a topping over the Baba ganoush

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## Broccoli Noodles

I love noodles, I love tahini, and I really love broccoli so when I came across Hetty McKinnon's Sesame Rice Noodle recipe I was thrilled. This comes together in a snap especially if you have prepped the "everything oil" in advance. If you are a fan of this dish may I suggest you have a look at her gorgeous new cookbook, To Asia with Love.

Here is my adapted version.

# Ingredients

1 package of pad thai rice noodles

1 Tbs of sesame oil

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup of tahini

2 heads of broccoli cut into pieces with a flat side for searing

1 package baby Bella mushrooms sliced

2-3 Tbs. of Hetty's everything oil

2 scallions finely sliced

Chopped cilantro leaves

Olive oil

Salt & Pepper

# Direction

1. Prepare veggies and heat heavy skillet for searing.
2. Soak rice noodles in boiling water for 10 mins while cooking the vegetables.
3. Drain, rinse with cold water, and toss with sesame oil.
4. Add olive oil to the heated skillet, searing broccoli, and then mushrooms in batches seasoning with salt and pepper. Once nicely charred in spots, cover with a lid briefly until just barely tender.
5. Set aside on a plate with a lid to keep warm.
6. Whisk tahini with  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 cup of filtered water, season with salt and pepper to taste. The amount of water will vary depending on the consistency of the tahini. You will want it pourable.
7. Pour tahini over noodles and toss to coat. Divide between serving dishes.  
Top with vegetables, a few splashes of everything oil, cilantro, and scallions.

Enjoy!

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# Spring Pea Soup

A delight for the senses, this soup is an absolute joy to make. Find some fresh sugar snap peas at your local farmer's market or favorite organic food store.

Adapted from David Tanis, Fresh Pea Soup, NYT Cooking

## Ingredients

- 2 tablespoon coconut or vegetable oil
- 2 young leeks, diced, both white and tender green parts
- 1 pound sugar snap peas, trimmed, and chopped ( be sure to remove the threads that run their length)
- 4 cups of veggie broth
- 4 tablespoons white or chickpea miso
- 2 thinly sliced scallions
- Salt and pepper to taste

## Directions

1. Heat coconut oil in a heavy saucepan over medium-high heat. Add leek and cook until softened, 5-7 minutes.
2. Add snap peas to pot and season well with salt and pepper. Add 1 cup water and simmer until peas are soft, about 3 minutes. Add broth and miso and cooking another minute two.
3. Purée mixture in a blender.
4. You can strain the mixture through a fine siever or use as is. Heat gently, adjusting seasonings as needed.
5. Serve in small bowls garnished with scallions.

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# Tahini Cookies

It's a good thing I snapped a photo as soon as these cookies came out of the oven, otherwise, it would have been a missed opportunity. The only effort in these yummy bites is in the patience needed to allow the dough to chill. Adapted from Aran Goyoaga

Makes 12 cookies

## Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons (85 g) vegan butter, melted and cooled (I like miyoko's cultured vegan butter)
- 1/3 cup (90 g) well-stirred tahini
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tbl (135 g) coconut sugar
- 3 tablespoons (35 g) plant milk (I like MALK almond milk)
- Dash of vanilla powder or 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup plus 1 tablespoon (150 g) buckwheat flour
- 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 ounces (55 g) 70% chocolate, coarsely chopped

## Directions

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the butter, tahini, and both sugars for 1 minute. Add the oat milk and vanilla extract.
2. In a medium bowl, stir together the buckwheat flour, salt, baking powder, baking soda, and cinnamon. Add into the butter mixture and stir together using a wooden

spoon or spatula. Fold in the chopped chocolate until it's thoroughly mixed. I get my hands in the dough if it feels too hard to mix with a spoon. You could refrigerate the dough as is in the bowl for one hour and portion before baking or as I did— Use an ice cream scoop, portioning dough directly onto a parchment-covered baking dish and place in the freezer for 30 mins.

3. Preheat oven to 350F.
4. Bake the cookies for 13 to 15 minutes (rotate halfway if needed) until the edges are set but the middle feels soft. They should be lightly golden brown. These cookies will continue to harden as they cool so best to slightly under bake them.
5. Let the cookies cool on the baking sheet for at least 10 minutes or until you can lift them up without falling apart. Store cookies in an airtight container for up to 5 days.

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## **Vegan Gluten Free Sourdough Waffles**

Yes, it's totally possible. Waffles that are vegan, gluten-free, sourdough, AND A-Mazing! If you actually made it through 2020 and did not make your own sourdough starter let this be the recipe to change that.

That being said, if you are just getting started you will need 5-6 days lead time to get the sourdough going. I think these instructions will be all you need, along with a good supply of organic brown rice flour.

You will also need a waffle iron. I had long given mine away

and then along came this recipe. But just as I was prepared to invest in a fancy new model I picked one up for four dollars at a yard sale and it totally does the trick.

Are you ready for the best waffles you have ever had?

Recipe adapted from Aran Goyoaga, Canelle et Vanille

## Ingredients

- 1 cup ( 240g) cold sourdough direct from the fridge
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup ( 105 g) of brown rice flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (60 g) tapioca starch ( or arrowroot)
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (180g) canned full fat coconut milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup (55 g) fresh lemon juice

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- 1-2 tablespoons local raw honey
- 1 vegan egg using Bob's Redmill egg replacement or a flax egg ( I like to mix the two)
- 3 TBL melted coconut oil- you will need more to grease the waffle iron
- Grated zest from one unwaxed organic lemon
- A pinch of vanilla powder or 1 tea of vanilla extract
- 1 tea baking soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tea salt

## Caramelized Apples

- 2 tablespoons of vegan butter or coconut oil
- 1 tea cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 2 peeled cored apples, sliced thin

For Topping- Your favorite plant-based yogurt

## The night before serving

- Mix the first five ingredients with a whisk in a glass bowl.
- Cover and set on counter overnight, at least 8 hours.

## In the morning

- Grease and pre-heat waffle iron.
- Add the remaining ingredients to the batter which will cause it to bubble. Using a whisk blend well.

Batter cooks quickly- check after 2-3 minutes. Remove gently with a fork and set aside, repeating the process with the remaining batter.

While the waffles cook, heat a heavy skillet. Add butter and apple slices. Saute over medium heat until softened. Add cinnamon and maple syrup, cover, and reduce heat to low allowing to simmer gently until apples are cooked through.

When ready to serve, top waffles with apples and a dollop of yogurt.

Enjoy!.

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## Secret Life of Teeth: Teeth Whitening; Is It OK?

In this episode of the Secret Life of Teeth, holistic dentist Ana Sanduta tells us about teeth whitening and how it affects your body and the layers of your teeth.

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