

**It is spring** all around and inside me. Ideas are blossoming from buds to flowers and my network of women who are creative in erotica has grown from a whisper to a scream.

It was only a couple of months ago that I opened my eyes and started to look around and realise how many of us there are. I did not find these women through sex shops but alternative grass root events and networking on-line. I contacted many of the amazing women whose work I admire and after a few e-mails and phone calls friendships were born. We now regularly write to each other and network, supporting each other by exchanging distribution and media contacts. The support we give

call this talented woman respectfully 'Queen Candida' and she calls me 'Princess Petra'. Candida was the first female filmmaker to illustrate her vision of what women want sexually through the vehicle of hardcore porn. She features hot men, foreplay and women receiving lots of head. She does not end every scene with a come shot all over the women, which is still expected in hardcore porn but a lot of women find degrading. Candida chose to show orgasms in different ways. With her latest production, *Aphrodite Superstar*, Candida has launched a range of ethnic erotic films called *Femme Chocolat* and focuses on mentoring young female directors.

## These fruits and vegetables are not edible but are high-quality silicone dildoes

to each other is something money can't buy. It is not a commercial approach we are taking but a human way to get connected — even if we talk shop. It is informal, humorous and warm exchange that we are having and I would like to share this with you. I am here to introduce some of the women who are making a real difference to so many people's sex life.

Let me start with the veterans of alternative and female-friendly porn: I proudly introduce to you Ms Candida Royale who has been creating porn from a woman's point of view in the States for over two decades. In the Seventies, Candida worked as an actress in 25 adult films before she started to get behind the camera and visualize her vision of erotica. In 1984 she launched *Femme Productions* and lead the way to female empowerment and pleasure. I

Then there is the high priestess of lesbian BDSM porn, Ms Maria Beatty. Maria has created 'porn noir' — similar to film noir featuring high contrast, flickering black and white images. It is a completely new approach in the often brightly-lit and candy coloured world of porn. Her hypnotic debut work, *The Black Glove*, was an intimate portrayal of a sadomasochistic encounter between herself and a dominant female partner. The now legendary movie made the entrancing submissive a cult star in the worldwide fetish scene. In ten years Maria and her production company *bleu productions* has produced and directed over 25 lesbian fetish films and one feature film, with the second one being completed later this year.

Committed to total control over her own work, Maria has gone on to establish herself



as a true independent, winning acclaim and awards for her uncompromising work. Her personal approach achieves an authentic sensuality rarely seen in adult cinema. She enjoys leading viewers into the enticing world of fetishism. Her work is highly controversial because she does not just feature fluffy lovemaking but pushes boundaries by featuring bondage, fisting, golden showers and more in her exciting BDSM scenarios.

In the UK we have our very own multi-talented sexpert, Emily Dubberley. Emily has done for female focused erotic literature what Candida and Maria have done for female-friendly porn. In 2001 Emily founded [www.clit-erati.co.uk](http://www.clit-erati.co.uk), a website dedicated to erotic fiction for women. She was also the brain and heart behind *Scarlet* magazine, which brought sexually taboo subjects successfully and skilfully to the mainstream. Emily has become an institution in the UK — she does consultations for sex documentaries, has written scripts for the *Lover's Guide* films and is an agony aunt and internationally published book author. Some of her titles are *Brief Encounters: The Woman's Guide To Casual Sex*, *Things A Woman Should Know About Seduction* and *I'd Rather*

## Be Single Than Settle: Satisfied Solitude And How To Achieve It.

There are also many young women on the continent carrying the flag for female pleasure. I met the German Anja Koschemann a couple of weeks back in Cologne. She was carrying a basket that was filled with fruit and vegetables with a big smile around an erotic trade show. These fruits and vegetables are not edible but are high-quality silicone dildoes that look realistic but feel much better than the originals. The toys change colour during use through body heat: a green banana turns ripe and ready yellow. The *Garden Of Eden* toy series was designed by her and every piece is hand-made. Anja has given up her job in a chemical lab to focus 100 per cent on creating unique toys for women. Her second edition is toys that are based on the four elements. All her toys are only made from high grade silicone and she works against the use of PVC and rubber in sex toys, as some of their chemical components have been proven to be highly toxic.

Even though all of us creative women did not manage to meet each other at the same time, the connection is there. It bridges generations and reaches around the globe. I decided to bring all my new friends to a virtual round table by sharing with you their answers to my most burning questions.

I hope you find their answers as inspirational as I do and will look forward to getting your hands on one of their pieces of art to watch and/or play.

**Forum:** What inspired you to create your very own erotica?

**Anja:** I wanted sex toys that did not look like a classic phallus and were cheaply mass-produced. A sex toy that looks like a miniature