

Menus Getting Verse: Laurie Wilson

You open up the menu, and that's the moment when you
Hope the meal will meet your highest expectation.
But the chef would rather nourish you with literary flourish,
And your lunch might be a '12-course degustation.'

In the veggie section there loom peas and beans that must be 'heirloom'
And the meal is more than likely 'deconstructed.'
So how'd you like your rice cooked? Would you like it twice or thrice-cooked?
Or else a Michelin star might be deducted!

And the chef has the delusion that cuisine must now be 'fusion',
Or 'artisanal', 'hand-picked', 'foraged' or 'bespoke.'
If he wants to be star-rated, then the food is not just plated,
It's on a rock or rough-hewn piece of oak.

There isn't space to mention other signs of food pretension
Such as duos, trios alias twos and threes.
I'll tell you what I'll have; just a glass of aged cab sav
Washing down a simple plate of bread and cheese!