



THE  
*Faith*  
REPORT

## HARLEM HAPPENINGS

FALL 2016



DINING IN HARLEM IS REACHING NEW HEIGHTS, AS THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S REBIRTH ATTRACTS CREATIVE CHEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ALL THAT EXCITEMENT IS FUELING A RESIDENTIAL REVIVAL, WITH NEW NEIGHBORS BEING FÊTED WITH A FULL RENOVATION OF BIG BOX STORES HITTING HARLEM'S MAIN ARTERY, 125TH STREET.

STARTING ON HARLEM'S RESTAURANT ROW, Frederick Douglass Blvd. is being talked about around the country for the exciting mix of dining that is coming to Harlem. New, straight from Paris, is *Le Caméléon*, which will be arriving soon at 2220 FDB, just north of 119th Street. Led by a Jeanne Mélanie Delcourt, a former chef at Camelia, the two Michelin star restaurant at the Mandarin Oriental in Paris, Delcourt was most recently chef at Palais de Tokyo, the Museum of Modern Art, near the Trocadero. Le Caméléon plans to offer a casual French menu, including fresh pastries in the morning and French-themed cocktails in the evening, and will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week.

Next door, at 2224 FDB, *Hop House* is being lauded all over Yelp for attentive service, great pizza (try the sausage!) and a full beer list that is gearing up for Oktoberfest. At 2190 FDB Kfir Ben-Ari, the owner of *Cafeine Urban Espresso* at 2124 FDB, is taking up the space left vacant by 5 and Diamond, with a modern bistro he plans to call *RDV*, short for Rendezvous.

In SOUTH HARLEM, *Café Dandy*, at 1890 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd, by West 115th Street has now opened. The cafe features pastries from *Café les Ambassades*, around the corner at 2200 FDB, along with fine burgers

but is getting kudos for its spicy Senegalese fish dish with eggplant sauce, cassava, and a conical mound of deeply flavorful rice. **B2 Harlem**, new at 271 W 119th Street, is already getting rave reviews for exquisite seafood, with some already adding the venue to *The Best of Harlem*. **Tequila Bar**, at 185 St. Nicholas Ave., in the old Cedric's, is coming soon.

CENTRAL HARLEM is getting tasty, too. At 227 Lenox Ave., **Sottocasa Pizzeria**, from Brooklyn, has opened a wood-fired pizza oven that has lovers of the Italian pie swooning. **Archer & Goat**, at 187 Lenox, is bringing a sophisticated hipster vibe to a classic brownstone building in the Mount Morris Park historic district, with a romantic dining room area and a cozy backyard space. Feeding on that energy, **Revolution Books**, at 347 Lenox Avenue, and **National Jazz Museum**, at 58 West 129th Street, between Lenox and Fifth Avenues, have also opened in walking distance.

In HAMILTON HEIGHTS, at 1618 Amsterdam, Hollywood, in the form of "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek's son, Matthew, has come to town with what he calls Mexican street-food, in a new restaurant named **Oso**. The "raw" vibe, covered in exposed brick, concrete floors and a graffiti mural, features a menu of small plates - tacos, gorditas, tamales, with some "daily doubles," too, including the whole market fish for two. The bar, open until 2 AM, includes 20 different tequilas and 14 mezcals. **Fumo**, at 1600 Amsterdam, is a romantic Italian joint that's fast becoming a go-to spot for lovers. **R.O.K.C. Ramen**, at 3452 Broadway, stands for **Ramen, Oysters, Kitchen, and Cocktails**, and, after an extended soft-opening, is now serving ramen and raw-bar standards. At 3569 Broadway, **Mama Sushi**, is a true Mexican-Japanese fusion serving cross-pollinated ideas, such as beef and chorizo sushi. **Uptown Bourbon** opened at 3631 Broadway by 150th Street, serving up classic drinks at a grownup saloon, also getting recognition for yummy bar snacks that are out of the ordinary. Outside of food and drink, at 3556 Broadway, **CityMD** is moving in to a large corner space, bringing its urgent care model uptown.

STRIVER'S ROW is coming alive with a great mix of new venues opening in the neighborhood for the first time. **ACP Coffee**, at 2286 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd, the sister of the original Nolita Mart & Espresso Bar, focuses on great coffee with a high level of service, with a bright décor that makes the place pop. **Alibi Lounge**, 2376 ACPB, is open and **Belle Harlem**, at 2363 ACPB, coming soon. A surprise hit is **Harlem Cycle**, at 2350 ACPB, is a focused, one-room exercising and cycling workout space, with a small reception area out front. Despite it's small size, reviewers rave about the excellent facility and great instructors.

As the new campus for *Columbia University* quickly comes together in MANHATTANVILLE, the area is gaining from three interesting additions. **Gavin Brown Gallery**, at 439 West 127th Street, a former brewery, where the eponymous gallerist is moving his wares from Greenwich Street in the West Village. Three floors of space, with an inaugural exhibit including videos by Ed Atkins, who recently joined the gallery. **Bierstrasse**, located under the 12th Avenue viaduct in view of the Hudson River, at 697 W 133rd St, this German-themed beer garden revels in its spacious outside sitting area. **Curry-Ya**, at 1467 Amsterdam Avenue, is the uptown arm of the famed Lower East Side curry house.

And the big boys are all heading to WEST 125TH STREET, with national brands a plenty. At 100 West 125th Street, **Whole Foods, Nordstrom Rack, Burlington Coat Factory, American Eagle, Olive Garden, TD Bank** are all coming soon. At 5 West 125th Street, we'll soon have **Bed Bath & Beyond, WeWork, New York & Company** and **T.J. Maxx**. **PC Richards** is going to open at 309 West 125th Street and **Footlocker** is going to 272-280 West 125th Street. And, keeping it spicy, **Go! Go! Curry!** is opening at 567 West 125th St., bringing its famous flavor from branches in Chelsea, NoHo and the Garment District.

***Food is the new fashion  
and Harlem is where it's at!***

***Happy dining, and happy shopping!***

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