

Story

Dig into fall

By KIRSTEN MATTHEW

Last Updated: 11:35 PM, September 5, 2012

Posted: 11:06 PM, September 4, 2012



13 people like this. Be the first of your friends.



0



25



More Print

Hungry for something new? Whether you're looking to chow down or swan around, dozens of dining options await you this season.

LATE NIGHT WITH MORIMOTO

Masaharu Morimoto may be a high-achieving superstar in the food world, but American comfort food is something he's not yet mastered. This is about to change with his downtown restaurant Tribeca Canvas (313 Church St.; 917-720-2845).

PHOTOS: NYC'S COOLEST FALL DINING DESTINATIONS

RELATED: MORE OPENINGS

"I'm excited for guests to see a new — and perhaps unexpected — side to my work, and I have been thinking about this concept for a long time," says the "Iron Chef America" star and owner of eight eponymous restaurants worldwide. "Although all of the Morimoto restaurants have playful and exciting items on their menus, most of the world considers me to be a sushi chef. Tribeca Canvas will not offer sushi or sashimi, and will focus on my personal version of comfort food instead."



RAHAV 'IGGY' SEGEV / PHOTOPASS.COM

At his upcoming restaurant Tribeca Canvas, Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto will serve dishes such as seasonal whole fish with pickled carrot and papaya salad.

The 80-seat dining room, fitted out by Thomas Schoos Design (the company that created Morimotos in Napa and Waikiki), will open in early October, with a bistro menu full of quirky (and no doubt beautifully presented) dishes such as French onion soup dumplings and the chef's interpretation of mac 'n' cheese.

It will also be a bright light for downtown night owls: food will be served until 4 a.m. every day. "I love TriBeCa's iconic feel, with wide streets and lots of landmark buildings," says Morimoto. "And I think Tribeca Canvas will serve the downtown neighborhood well. It will also offer guests and people in our industry a great place to hang out after-hours."

ASIAN INVASION

The trend for unexpected, inventive Asian cuisine kicked off with the May openings of Mission Chinese and Pok Pok NY, but it continues apace this fall. First up is Pig & Khao on the LES (68 Clinton St.), the newest creation from the Fatty Crab restaurateurs. The eatery will open mid-September with "Top Chef" contestant Leah Cohen behind the burners. She spent a year working in kitchens in Southeast Asia: The result is Pig & Khao's menu of Thai and Filipino small plates, such as pork neck