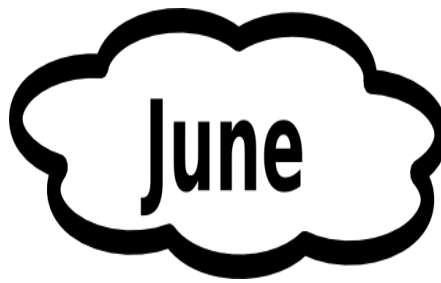


• the single gourmet •

69 West 9th Street #6A
New York, NY 10011
646-825-0268- Aaron
aaron@thesinglegourmet.net



NEWSLETTER
June 2016

As many of you know by now, our Founder, **Art Fischer**, passed away peaceful on April 19th 2016 at the age of 92. Many members took time off to go to the services, listen to, and tell their own stories, others joined the family at the Shiva held at the Friars Club. Proving still, what he meant to the members of this group. I only knew Art for 2+ years, the first of which we talked daily as he guided me with The Single Gourmet, the last of which we hardly communicated as I wanted to give him time to enjoy his retirement. I still always felt his strength and presence in each newsletter that I wrote and as I suspected, even in his failing health, he was diligently reading over every word I wrote and according to his son Geoff, “Dad” was always commenting and criticizing each newsletter until his last week ☺. He was an innovator of an idea and concept that would be copied by dinner and meetup groups worldwide. In it’s heyday (when Art was about 77), before online dating sites and the internet, Art licensed The Single Gourmet to over 20+ locations. For 32 years he ran The Single Gourmet his way and he did it right. No other dinner group is as organized and runs as smoothly as his baby and that is why we are in our 34th year: **The Longest Running Dinner Group in The World!** His strong connections with famous restaurateurs was also no accident as he knew how to rub shoulders and schmooze with everyone. He was a debonair aficionado of all things gracious, haute and elegant and it was obvious the minute he walked into the room. In planning many dinners, often I just mentioned “Art Fischer,” and many restaurateurs immediately would give me credibility. He created fond and fun memories, 1000s of stories, friendships and countless marriages through this dinner group and I am proud to keep the tradition going. I know many of you have amazing stories either from a trip he took you on, from a friendship created or from a meal at a restaurant you never would have gone to. Stories are what keep people alive and what keeps them in our memories and Art Fischer, though he no longer is with us, is in the minds, hearts and stories of thousands and thousands of people worldwide. We can be sad for a moment as we hear this news, but we all must realize that Art knew how to live life, and for that, we are all thankful!!!!

This Wednesday we have our 34th anniversary dinner at **Shun Lee West**. Where it all began! Upon hearing of “Artie’s” death, owners Andy and Henry donated a full buffet spread to the Friars Club for Art’s Shiva. Let’s all thank them by joining this top rated restaurant! Next, on Sunday May 15th, join us for some upbeat Big Band and dance lessons along with great food at **Swing 46**. This is a lively night, with Big Band Music in a Super Club atmosphere. Get ready to swing dance and lindy hop the night away as you join us for this night of food, dance and music. Lessons are normally \$25 but they are included with our meal!! The following week we return to one of the best meals of my first year with TSG and an absolute theatre district favorite. The sleek and upscale **Vice Versa** welcomes us Saturday May 21st. Finally, end the Single Gourmet month near the Highline at a neighborhood favorite, **Bottino**. Our menu is spectacular as the owner Danny Emerson loves our group and our concept. Join us Wednesday before Memorial Day weekend at this rustic hot-spot Italian, for one of the best menus that we have seen!

Our June starts off with something very different for The Single Gourmet, but something I have done with friends and my wife and I think some from the group would absolutely love. If you like to laugh, if you are open minded to some raunchy comedy, and if you have been to a drag show before, or if you just like unlimited mimosas and Bloody Mary’s with your brunch, then this is your opportunity to join us for brunch at **LIPS DRAG SHOW PALACE**, June 5th. For over 20 years this show has been performing in NYC! After a wild fun Sunday brunch, we have a nice casual midweek walk through the Bronx as we do a **walking tour of Arthur Avenue**. Sample small bite culinary treats and enjoy the history of this iconic neighborhood on a guided tour, Wednesday June 8th. The following Saturday, June 11th we head to one of our favorite restaurants, **PAMPANO**. Richard Sandoval always offers us one of the best meals whenever we dine at his establishments, this time is no exception. Our menu is incredible and if you have not been here with the group before, this is really the best of the best! Next, on Friday, June 17th we dine inside the Metlife Building at **NAPLES 45**. The top notch Patina Restaurant Group delivers time and time again at all their restaurants, and this ageless classic is right up there. The following Sunday is special Fathers Day brunch at The **Highline Ballroom**. This is the 3rd month in a row we have come here for brunch because each time the show is just THAT

amazing!!! Join us for a 5 person Bossa Nova Brazilian inspired band featuring classics from Jobim in their tribute aptly named, **"The Girl From Impanema."** We end our month on Sunday, June 26th, at what used to be Fiorini's, one of the top Italian restaurants Art went to for years, now replaced with another neighborhood gem, **AMATA CUCINA.** This is a gorgeous Italian restaurant in midtown east, that is soon-to-be-classic for us!

The following May events are still available for Single Gourmet Members and their guests:

1. **Shun Lee West** –43 West 65th Street (CPW and Columbus), Wednesday, May 11th, 6:15pm optional drinks, 7:00pm anniversary dinner, tea (no wine), tax & tip-\$72
2. **Swing 46-** 349 West 46th Street (8th/9th), Sun, May 15th, 6:00 pm opt drinks, 7pm dinner, Big Band & dance lessons & 3-course meal, gl ass of wine, music charge- \$79
3. **Vice Versa-** 325 West 51st (8th and 9th avenue), Saturday, May 21st, 7pm drinks, 8pm dinner, 3-course, glass of wine, coffee, tax and tip- \$77
4. **Bottino-** 246 10th Avenue (24th Street), Wednesday, May 25th 5:45pm drinks, 6:45pm dinner. Full Dinner, glass of wine, coffee, tax and tip- \$78

The following June events are available for Single Gourmet Members and their guests:



Lips Drag Queen Show Palace and Restaurant
227 East 56th (2nd and 3rd)
Sunday, June 5th - "Broadway Show Brunch"
2 hour- Unlimited Mimosa's and Bloody Mary's
12-2pm please arrive on time!!!
Show, Brunch Entrée, Mimosas/Bloody Mary's \$51

With Moulin Rouge- like decorated spaces located in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, San Diego and Fort Lauderdale, this show has been making audiences laugh for over 20 years. Join comedian MC GingerSnapt, as she hosts one of the funniest shows I have seen in a very long time. It is a laugh a minute at this top rated, Certificate of Excellence awarded 4-star Drag Show. This is a bit different event for The Single Gourmet, but after having experienced it and the fun and laughter involved, I felt this would be a great Sunday fun brunch to cheer up the group. Be prepared for New York's only true La Cage Drag Show Broadway experience with spoofs of many Broadway favorites. I assure you that this will be a great time for

everyone who likes to laugh. Be advised that the MC is a comedian and this includes adult humor and language.



Bronx's Little Italy and Arthur Avenue Tour
Meet by Grand Central (Park Ave @ 42nd street)
Wednesday, June 8th @ 11am – 2pm
\$39 (plus metro north transportation)

The Bronx is rich in culture and food experiences. Explore the area known as New York's culinary center with a three-hour excursion through Little Italy and Arthur Avenue. This Bronx neighborhood is teeming with Italian bakeries, specialty shops, fish markets, butcher shops and more. You'll learn about the history of Belmont and Fordham Roads and the immigrants from Italy and Ireland who formed the neighborhood. Then visit the thriving

business district of Little Italy to sample culinary treats. We will sample small bites. We will meet at Grand Central Station at 42nd and Park and then take a train ride to the Bronx to discover this vital section of the borough.



Pampano- Richard Sandoval
209 East 49th (2nd and 3rd ave)
Saturday, June 11th
7:00 pm optional drinks, 7:45 pm dinner
\$79 3 course, 1 gl wine/beer/margarita,
sangria. coffee, tax & tip

It was Art's relationship with Richard Sandoval that created the bond we have had with all of his incredible restaurants. A Richard Sandoval masterpiece and an impressive Zagat 24 where the food "hits the high notes at this top notch"

Chef Sandoval, a Bravo's top Chef Master, is known for taking gourmet Mexican and Latin flavor to a new level. With over 30 Latin restaurants across the United States, Europe, Mexico and the Middle East, Richard Sandoval is a global pioneer. Nine of his restaurants have been voted best in their category. He was also nominated for James Beard Outstanding Restaurateur. Our menu- ceviche de camaron- octopus, bay scallops, shrimp, red onion, cilantro; quesadilla de pascado- red snapper, oaxaca cheese, crema fresca, salsa; mixed greens- cranberries, caramelized almonds, goat cheese, spicy balsamic vinaigrette; salmon with sweet potato puree, sauteed kale, abodo beuree blanc, espuma; pan seared chicken with chipotle-mulatu pepper rub , roasted cauliflower puree; grilled skirt steak, corn on the cob, grilled cactus, wild mushrooms, mash potatoes and dessert.



Naples 45
200 Park Ave (@45th Inside MetLife Building)
Friday, June 17th
5:45 pm optional drinks, 6:30 pm dinner
\$74- Italian meal, glass wine, coffee, tax & tip

Back in 1963 this space was called Trattoria and the restaurant was a vast, colorful, very stylish space serving highly authentic Italian, but at the time it didn't serve pizza. Decades later, Trattoria was recast as Naples 45, the name referring to the city where pizza was invented and

where Naples 45 became one of the first higher end Italians to add pizza to their menu. After a great deal of research was done to obtain the perfect flour, tomatoes, mozzarella, even water with the same mineral content as the water in Naples, the result was a success. Zagat states, "The handy commuter friendly venue near GCT knocks out a solid Southern Italian menu led by its authentic Neapolitan style pizza". Naples 45 is owned by the Patina Restaurant Group, owners of 60 restaurants nationwide including, Café Centro, Brasserie 8 1/2 Lincoln Ristorante, State Grill, Rock Center Café, The Sea Grill and La Fonda Del Sol. The menu consists of Skuna Bay salmon, pollo, hand-made pasta, shared appetizers of pizza and salads and of course dessert.



The Girl From Ipanema- The Highline Ballroom
431 West 16th (9th and 10th Avenue)
Sunday, June 19th Fathers Day
11:45 Brunch- 12:30pm show
\$65- Show, Entrée, Coffee/Soda, Tax/Tip

In 1962, Antonio Carlos "Tom" Jobim wrote "The Girl From Ipanema," a sultry bossa nova song that has since become one of the most recorded songs in history. Experience the iconic bossa nova composer when an ensemble of New York's top contemporary musicians pay homage to that song and Jobim's Brazilian-jazz legacy at this special Father's Day performance. Join vocalist Julie Eigenber who co-wrote one of Jobim's biggest hits, "Why Not!", joined by

world guitar master composer Andres Laprida, Itaguara Brandao, Cidinho Teixeira and Helio Schiavo as they celebrate the sounds of Brazilian music masters Vinicius de Moraes and Antonio Carlos Jobim. Andres Laprida has earned international acclaim in his own right, having traveled the globe playing concert halls, jazz festivals and ballets, as well as writing scores for both the big and small screen. This is a can't miss show filled with incredible talent, each with a resume pages long.



Amata- Cucina Italiana
209 East 56th (Between 2nd and 3rd)
Sunday, June 26th
5:45 pm optional drinks, 6:45 pm dinner
\$82 Italian meal, glass wine, tax & tip

Taking over the space that was once our beloved Fiorini, "Amata" which means "beloved" in Italian is a vibrant yet cozy Italian restaurant serving traditional Italian with a modern flair. Amata is the coming-together of decades of NYC-based restaurant experience between restaurateur Jack Dorrian, and executive chef Enzo Di Rende. Chef Enzo Di Rende, started his kitchen experience at age 13 working at the famous Dominick's of Arthur Avenue with his own father who

owned the restaurant. Enzo eventually would graduate from The **Culinary Institute of America** and opened up his own Arthur Avenue Italian restaurant in 1999- Enzo's of Arthur Avenue. A long-time fan of classic traditional Italian food, Jack Dorrian became an immediate fan of Enzo's deliciously comforting dishes, and now faithfully believes his friends and neighbors here in Manhattan will make themselves happily "at home".

Labor Day Weekend Trip- Montreal

We are still planning our Labor Day weekend trip, which will be around Sept 1-6th in Montreal. We are negotiating with the Omi Hotel in Montreal or a similar quality hotel. Join us in the city that has more restaurants per capita than NYC, based on an island full of history and fun, the second biggest "French" speaking city in the world after Paris. We are in the very early stages of this trip, but some things on the agenda are a cruise on the Saint Lawrence River, whale watching, visting Ottawa, Quebec City, old down and much much more. More details will follow in the next newsletter. If interested mark your calendar (or send a deposit and let us know) ☺

To reserve at any or all the events please go to our website and view our dashboard event calendar or call us at (646-825-0268), email us at aaron@thesinglegourmet.net or mail checks with events chosen to:

The Single Gourmet, c/o Aaron Lefkowitz, 69 west 9th Street Apartment #6A, New York, NY 10011

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. Shun Lee West- 34 years | Wed May 11h | 6:15 pm | \$72 _____ |
| 2. SWING 46- BIG BAND SWING LESSONS | Sun, May 15 th | 6:00pm | \$79 _____ |
| 3. Vice Versa- Sleek Modern Top Italian | Sat May 21 | 7:00pm | \$77 _____ |
| 4. Bottino- Art Gallery Neighborhood Favorite | Wed May 25 th | 5:45pm | \$78 _____ |
| 5. Lips Drag Show- Unlimited Mimisa and BM | Sun, June 5 th | 12:00pm | \$51 _____ |
| 6. Arthur Avenue Walking Tour | Wed, June 8 th | 11:00am | \$39 _____ |
| 7. Pompano- Richard Sandoval Peruvian | Sat. June 11 th | 6:45 pm | \$79 _____ |
| 8. Naples 45- Patina Group | Fri June 17 th | 5:45pm | \$74 _____ |
| 9. The Girl From Ipenema | Sun, June 19 th | 11:45am | \$65 _____ |
| 10. Amata- New Upscale Italian | Sun June 26 th | 5:45pm | \$82 _____ |
| 11. Montreal Details coming soon | Sept 1-6 | \$500 deposit | _____ |

Name: _____

Check _____ or CC Number _____ Expiration _____ ZIP _____

Phone number _____ email _____

Signature _____ I understand these events /deposits are non-refundable