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Mercadito: Forget the tacos—what about the cocktails?

Posted in [Restaurants and bars](#), [Sports & Rec](#) by [David Tamarkin](#) on September 2nd, 2009 at 12:03 pm



Jennifer Contraveos, one member of a fierce mixology team that'll be shaking at Mercadito.

New York Mexican restaurant [Mercadito](#) is slated to open its Chicago location in the middle of September, and so far the buzz has been all about its tacos: *pastor* tacos, garlic-shrimp tacos and, mostly, the beer-battered-fish tacos.

But after hearing who'll be working the bar at Mercadito, I'm more excited about the cocktails. The list has been created by the [Tippling Bros.](#), the cocktail consulting company helmed by renowned bartenders Tad Carducci and Paul Tanguay. (You may be more familiar with one of the Tippling Bros.' competitors, [Alchemy Consulting](#), made up of the [Violet Hour](#)'s Toby Malony and Jason Cott.) Executing those cocktails is an impressive team of Chicago mixologists: Dan de Olivera, who comes from the [BOKA](#) Restaurant Group; [Jennifer Contraveos](#), a cocktail-competition veteran who comes from [La Madia](#); [Kyle McHugh](#), another cocktail-competition vet who also owns [Drinks Over Dearborn](#); and Daniel Love, who represented Chicago in a national cocktail competition recently (and whom you'll read more about in next week's *TOC*).

So are you still thinking about those tacos? Didn't think so. But at least we'll have something to snack on while we drink.

Tags: [cocktails](#), [dan de olivera](#), [daniel love](#), [jennifer contraveos](#), [kyle mchugh](#), [mercadito](#), [paul tangua](#), [tacos](#), [tad carducci](#), [tippling bros](#)

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