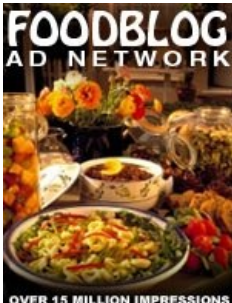


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THE CULINARY WATCH for Chefs!



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"Bar Celona"

The newly opened Bar Celona aims to make you feel like you're in Barcelona. It works. (Especially after a cocktail or two.)

This swanky Williamsburg Spanish tapas bar and restaurant recently opened with an ambitious artisanal cocktail program developed by Tad Carducci and Paul Tanguay of The Tippling Bros. The cocktail menu — with its nod to the flavors, ingredients and drinking traditions of Spain and the rest of the Latin world — is divided into three categories : "G y T's" (gin and tonic drinks such as the El Prado with Tanqueray, pineapple syrup, mint, Valencia orange, house tonic), "Gastros" (Gazpacho with Akvavit, tomato, cucumber, Pedro Ximenez sherry, lime, yellow Chartreuse) and "Variedades" (the La Fashionista with cucumber vodka, elderflower liqueur, lemon lavender foam).

But if you're not a Williamsburg hipster worried about squeezing into your skinny jeans and vintage print t-shirts, check out the menu. Owner Cynthia Diaz, a former fashion consultant, and chef Jordy Lavaderos have put together a traditional Spanish tapas menu with Latin twists. You can nosh on stuffed piquillo peppers with goat cheese and herbs over a spicy tomato sauce or foie gras pate and smoked mackerel pate with cherries. Diaz says she wants guests to feel like they're at a fun, chic cocktail party at Bar Celona. They are open six days a week for dinner, Tuesday to Sunday. No reservations are needed except for parties of six or more.

Bar Celona is located at 104 S. Fourth St. in Williamsburg, 718-237-7828, www.barcelonaloungenyc.com.

— Bao Ong

posted: october 26, 2009 - 6:03 am



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