

LE MÉRIDIEN CHAMBERS MINNEAPOLIS' EXECUTIVE CHEF MIKE RAKUN ANNOUNCES NEW RESTAURANT CONCEPT

Art-focused downtown Minneapolis hotel to be home of new Mercy Restaurant scheduled to open April 2017

Minneapolis, MN - February 15, 2017 – Le Méridien Chambers Minneapolis will soon be home to a new restaurant concept in downtown's booming dining scene. Executive Chef Mike Rakun will convert the hotel's current in-house restaurant, Marin Restaurant & Bar, located on the first floor of the art-focused hotel, into the new locally-inspired, Mercy, opening its doors this April.

Mercy will feature a casually chic concept with a new menu that will reflect the spirit of true mid-western cuisine, taking guests of the hotel on a local gastronomic journey. While Marin Restaurant & Bar was known for its creative health-conscious cuisine, Mercy will appeal to Minneapolis' love for hearty comfort foods and traditional American delicacies.

Named after his daughter, Mercy brings together Chef Rakun's two loves: food and family, as inspiration for this new restaurant concept. His philosophy of sourcing the best ingredients and letting them speak for themselves comes from his personal connection to food and is evident in his approachable menu.

"I'm thrilled for the opportunity to share more of who I am and create a spot that represents how and where I like to eat," said Chef Rakun. "The success of Marin has afforded me the opportunity to move forward in a new direction. Mercy will be uniquely my own and I'm excited to show downtown residents and visitors alike what we have in store."

Mike and his wife Abby Rukun, who's also the creative catalyst for Marin, were wildly successful in creating a welcoming and cozy lower level with The Library Bar, so the couple wanted to extend that feeling to the upper level using the same classic yet comfortable style for Mercy.

As Marin closes its doors on Monday, February 20, 2017, the Library Bar will remain open to the public during construction serving breakfast, lunch and dinner with access through Le Méridien Chambers.

ABOUT LE MÉRIDIEN CHAMBERS MINNEAPOLIS

Situated in the heart of the city's arts district, Le Méridien Chambers Minneapolis is within walking distance from the Orpheum Theater, the Walker Art Center and the Guthrie Theater. Bringing art in, the 60-room boutique hotel features an on-site gallery with original artwork from local and nationally recognized artists, in addition to artwork in all guest rooms and common areas. Guests can enjoy fresh, creative cuisine at MARIN Restaurant and Bar, a 24-hour fully equipped Fitness Centre, and in-room massage services performed by skilled therapists. For more information, visit: www.lemeridienchambers.com.

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