



/nightspots



@nightspotchicago



nightspots

weekly nightlife section in 

the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR Top spots of 2016

BY ANDREW DAVIS

In 2016, I had the opportunity to visit a lot of area restaurants, ranging from fast-food places to very upscale spots. Below are some of the ones that stood head and shoulders above the others.

Analogue (2523 N. Milwaukee Ave.; AnalogueChicago.com): Don't be fooled by the lunchtime cafeteria trays. Analogue is a relatively simple, relaxed site with Southern fare that's simultaneously straightforward, traditional (although with the occasional twist) and more complex than you might think.



2016 highlights include the ramen at Arami (above), the work of Analogue chef Alfredo Nogueira (left) and the lounge at Travelle (below).

Arami photo by Andrew Davis; PR photos of Analogue and Travelle



Sidetrack's OUTspoken! Series: January's featured storytellers



The January edition of OUTspoken! LGBTQ storyteller series takes place Tuesday, January 3, at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St. Doors open at 6 pm, stories begin at 7. See www.outspokenchicago.com for more info.

DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE

BY MARC 'MOOSE' MODER



George Michael's eight most iconic moments

With the death of pop icon George Michael, many in our community felt a loss akin to Bowie or Prince. But with only a smattering of singles over the past 15 years, there are many of us who only recognize random singles from pop culture or (gasp!) their parents. It's with great sadness and reverence that we break down GM's eight most important recorded moments for the lovers and the newbies.

—1982, "Wham! Rap!" It made no impact as their debut single, but was groundbreaking when 19-year-old George Michael pushed forward with a still-underground black genre into the UK market. Only Blondie's "Rapture" pre-dated him in a white audience's exposure to hip-hop. It wouldn't be until the following year, when it was reissued, that it would finally chart in the UK, and then again with a new version in 1986.

—1984, "Careless Whisper/Last Christmas" By now Wham! was a phenomenon on both sides of the pond with "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go," but "Careless Whisper" and "Last Christmas" helped the band cross over from teenie-bopper girl favorite to a cross-gender contender. Both singles represented something more mature, even thought Michael wrote "Careless Whisper" in high school. It

—Charlatan (1329 W. Chicago Ave.; CharlatanChicago.com): With cuisine labelled as "Italian countryhouse meets Midwest farmhouse," this spot has items like goat cheese-stuffed chicken breast and sports phrases such as "Che cazzo fai?"

Oyster Bah (1962 N. Halsted St.; OysterBah.com): Being from the Chesapeake Bay area, I'm normally a bit skeptical of Chicago's seafood offerings. However, this spot has some of the best seafood I'd had in a long time. Don't skip the stuffies!

Arami (1829 W. Chicago Ave.; AramiChicago.com): This Japanese spot has a rather non-descript exterior—but the interior (decor- and cuisine-wise) is the total opposite. Maki, ramen, sashimi—they're all excellent.

Travelle Kitchen + Bar (330 N. Wabash St.; TravelleChicago.com): Chef de Cuisine Ricardo Jarquin offers some stunning dishes at this Langham Chicago spot (in the former IBM building). Some of them include the chilled English pea soup (with lump crab, cucumber and yuzu), pork and clams, and the banana-and-peanut butter pot de creme.

LondonHouse Chicago's rooftop bar (85 E. Upper Wacker Dr.; LondonHouseChicago.com): This is the city's only tri-level rooftop venue—and boasts everything from imaginative cocktails to tasty dishes to an unforgettable view from the 23rd-floor cupola.

Green Zebra (1460 W. Chicago Ave.; GreenZebraChicago.com): What do you mean you don't like vegetarian fare? Green Zebra will change your mind, thanks to items like the beet (not beef) tartare and pumpkin pot stickers.

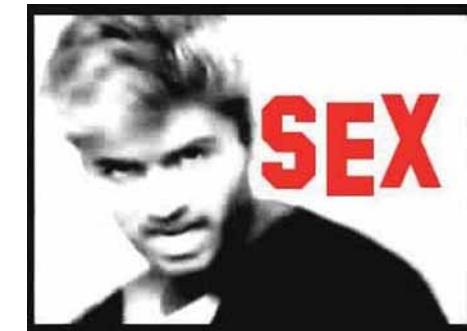
Runner-ups include **NaKorn**, **Nonnina** and **Cafe Spiaggia**.

Here's looking forward to 2017!

Note: Restaurant profiles are based on invitations arranged from restaurants and/or firms.

would go on to be the anthem for every school dance, and "Last Christmas" is a modern holiday classic that rivals Mariah Carey's crown any day.

—1986, "A Different Corner" Released on Wham's last album, "A Different Corner" was really Michael's coming out as a solo artist. When the single came out, it was listed as George Michael, not Wham!, and he never looked back. It was not only written solo, but performed and produced solo, something only Stevie Wonder and Prince were doing at the time.



—1987, "I Want Your Sex" After the mournful, delicate "Corner" was turned, Michael turned us all out with a song so brazenly sexual, it was banned by the BBC and some US stations, which, of course, pushed it to the top of the charts and helped set the table for the diamond-selling *Faith* LP, which blew away any of his past group achievements with ease. At this point, the gay icon was still pushing his heterosexuality onto us with his nude girlfriend in the video, but we all knew ...

—1990, "Freedom '90" Three years, ten million albums, and seven Top Ten hits later, George was ready to put his music in the spotlight (instead of his tight bum) by shunning the peak of the music video craze. After refusing a video for the previous single, "Praying For Time," "Freedom '90" rounded up the hottest collection of the queens of supermodelry to stand in for George, lip-synching his cut and

Turn to page 22



"I don't vote with my vagina—this is bigger than that."—Susan Sarandon. So if you've got a problem with how the election turned out, reach out to Sarandon. Apparently her vagina is big enough to grab.

As we look back on 2016, I want to start—selfishly, perhaps—with a story about me. Many people were taken aback when I discussed my decision to go on PrEP as a form of HIV prevention. For me, it was a no-brainer; I tell you everything (well, almost everything). I don't understand all this PrEP-shaming. Here's how I look at it: Maybe someone who wouldn't typically read a medical article got some information from my weekly scribbings. I am heartened by everyone who wrote in—even those of you who felt it was mistake. At least you're paying attention.

Even in our darkest hour, there is some light. Most of us were horrified as news of the massacre at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando trickled in. But immediately following the tragedy, JetBlue offered to fly affected family members to Orlando for free. Disney donated \$1 million to the OneOrlando Fund. Other companies reached out. But perhaps most impressively, Seth Rudetsky and hubby James Wesley corralled dozens of Broadway luminaries to record "What the World Needs Now Is Love" and raised not only money but awareness. Bravo.

I love the summer Olympics. Lots of hot muscular guys showing lots of rippling flesh—what's not to like? In a first, an Olympian was actually robbed of a medal due to the size of his penis! Hiroki Ogita almost cleared the 5.3-meter pole he was attempting to vault when his protruding penis pushed the pole. That was topped by Brazilian gymnasts Arthur Zanetti, Arthur Mariano and Sergio Sasaki, who all made nude videos. Mariano's was the most impressive, since he was nude, fully erect and hanging around the team bathroom! Then there's Britain's Louis Smith, who was filmed polishing his javelin, if you catch my drift. You can see all on [BillyMasters.com](#).

My favorite Olympic-related story is that General Mills finally put the legendary Greg Louganis on a box of Wheaties. Louganis said, "Back in '95, I wasn't expecting to live very long because we thought of HIV-AIDS as a death sentence. So to be here today, now 56, the box means so much more to me than it would have then because I feel like I'm being embraced as a whole person, not just for my athletic achievement."

Like it or not, we must mention Logo's Finding Prince Charming. Talk about being between a rock and a hard place—it's a show nobody but gay men has ever heard of, and yet one which almost no gay men admit to watching! It was a bold experiment gone tragically wrong. Logo touted it as the first gay bachelor show, discounting Bravo's Boy Meets Boy—which was far superior, despite its own icky twist. But nothing could be ickier than Logo's "prince," Robert Sepulveda Jr. Look: Nobody loves a hooker more than me. But once there are videos of you drinking someone's semen out of a used condom or shoving a shampoo bottle up your ass, I think you've lost the right to the holier-than-thou attitude—to say nothing of the title "prince." Logo missed a great opportunity for product placement. Picture it: Finding Prince Charming,



In 2016, Greg Louganis had his Wheaties, **Billy Masters** noted.
Photo from Louganis

brought to you by Head & Shoulders!

Now that the season is over, Sepulveda is more than happy to not only talk about being a hooker, but also make some money off it ... 'cause that's what hookers do. His latest venture is a 2017 calendar called "Rented," in which he "gives the recipient a glimpse into the harsh reality many sex workers face." Forget "prince"—the man is a saint. He's the Mother Teresa of prostitution! In the calendar, we see such telling photos as him counting the money left on a nightstand—I never saw Terry do that in Calcutta! To prove he hasn't left behind the world's oldest profession (many claim he's still escorting), the calendar costs a whopping \$50. Lest you think he's pocketing that money, au contraire. Allegedly, all of the proceeds will go to SexWorkersProject.org. If this is handled anything like his Atlanta Rainbow Crosswalks "charity," next year's calendar might be called "Incarcerated!"

There were lots of celebrity nudes. On [BillyMasters.com](#), you can find people like River Viiperi, Will Wikle, Orlando Bloom, Justin Bieber, Alex Bowen, Lewis Bloor and Brandon Myers. Those last few are quite well-endowed British reality stars definitely worth checking out. Still, the top dog is John Barrowman's husband, Scott Gill—who is also a Brit. Scott nearly broke the Internet when he wandered by naked while Barrowman was doing a live web chat from their Palm Beach pool. You can see why Johnny is always so happy on our website.

What would a Billy Masters column be without a Fayewatch item? We have bookend items about La Dunaway. Near the beginning of the year, she was seen at a popular West Hollywood grocery store wearing plastic surgical gloves and talking to the tomatoes. It would really be a story if the tomatoes spoke back! As the year drew to a close, I ran into Faye in the most unlikely of places. While I can't share too many details, she looked quite frail and was sporting a soft cast on her right foot. When I asked her about it, she said, "Well, I had a little run-in with my refrigerator—but that's not how this happened." She then hobbled off as I said, "Huh?"

When Faye is speaking in riddles, it's time to wrap up another year of columns. As we go to press, we're shocked to learn that it was George Michael's last Christmas. But even with that sad news, I had to smile when I read Sarah Michelle Gellar's Twitter tribute: "Do you really want to hurt me? I guess you do 2016. #ripboygeorge." Always on the cutting edge, Buffy! That's why you get your news from [BillyMasters.com](#), the site with a finger on the pulse of anyone with a pulse! If you'd like to reach out to us, drop a note to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before the next celebrity death. Thanks for yet another great year. And, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Have you been
Naughty or Nice?
Find all of your naughty gifts
at LEATHER64TEN! Shop in-store or on-line!
LEATHER64TEN CHICAGO
6410 N. CLARK, CHICAGO, IL
773.508.0900 | LEATHER64TEN.COM | [@LEATHER64TEN](mailto:LEATHER64TEN)

SATURDAY DECEMBER 31
RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH FUN,
FRIENDS AND TEAM SIDETRACK!
\$25 ADVANCE TICKET SALES
AVAILABLE NOW FROM YOUR
BARTENDER OR
SIDETRACKCHICAGO.COM
DOORS OPEN AT 7PM
CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
BENEFITING THE LEGACY PROJECT
21+ WITH VALID ID

CELEBRATE 2017 NEW YEAR'S EVE AT SIDETRACK
new year's day
one one onesie party
DOORS OPEN 1PM
WEAR YOUR ONESIE/PJ'S WITH TEAM SIDETRACK
SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOW TUNES 4-9PM
RIBBON DANCE PARTY 9PM-2AM

3349 N HALSTED SIDETRACKCHICAGO.COM [F](https://www.facebook.com/SIDETRACKBAR) [T](https://www.twitter.com/SIDETRACKBAR) [@SIDETRACKBAR](https://www.instagram.com/SIDETRACKBAR)

LIGHTS GO DOWN.
SHIRTS COME OFF.
TEAM SIDETRACK IS GEARED UP.
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

JANUARY 4 9PM-2AM
WOOF
WEDNESDAY
HOSTED BY **TODD HARRIS**
MR. CHICAGO LEATHER 2016
NO COVER
LEAVE YOUR INHIBITIONS AT THE DOOR...

MEN'S ROOM
FASHION - GROOMING - FITNESS

FULL KIT GEAR
YOUR FAVORITE GEAR
EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!
TREAT YOURSELF

LEATHER
RUBBER
SPORT
UNDERWEAR
MADE TO MEASURE
HARNESSES
& ACCESSORIES

FK
Full Kit Gear
5021 N Clark
Chicago, IL
Open 12-9 Daily
(773) 657-8000
FULLKITGEAR.COM