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weekly nightlife section in





TOUCHE

Congrats to the new Mr. Midwest Rubber!
Photos by Jerry Nunn



the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Fulton Market Kitchen

BY ANDREW DAVIS

I actually mean this in the best possible way, but **Fulton Market Kitchen** (311 N. Sangamon St.; FultonMarketKitchen.com) is almost an assault on the senses.

If you're looking for a dark, quiet restaurant,

this isn't it—at least in the lounge (although there are some darker but no less striking rooms). Fulton Market Kitchen is a combination art gallery/restaurant, and the artwork and cuisine are both standouts.

As for the art, it's varied and mesmerizing. There are thought-provoking paintings (most for sale), murals, installations and more. (Be sure to check out the suitcase installation at the main bar—actually, the installation IS part of the bar.) Even the chandeliers are works of art (and they made me think of the artist who once told me that life is art). There's also a second-floor event space that features paintings as well as a group of paintbrushes that is—wait for it—artfully suspended from the ceiling.

The cuisine is just as bold and eye-pleasing as the art. Our server, Jelly (yes, that's her name), skillfully explained the menu. (It seemed odd that a place with so many visual attractions had relatively few menu options, but that doesn't



The interior (above) and the beef cheeks (below) at Fulton Market Kitchen.

Photos by Andrew Davis



mean they're not well done.)

The foie gras was enough to make me want to return. The foie gras was molded with mandarin orange jelly to look like an actual orange—and you just cut into it and spread it on your accompanying sourdough. It was pure heaven.

However, there were other tantalizing dishes as well. The beef cheeks (with English peas, fava beans, wild mushrooms, yuzu and beet jus) had a deep flavor, and the pork shoulder was just as captivating. Also, my dining companion loved her venison (with blackberry gastrique, salt roasted root vegetables and pickled morels).

Top off everything with either the butter cake or the cookies-and-cream combo (the latter an amalgam of black cocoa fudge cake, vanilla bean mousse and samba chocolate sauce).

Prepare to be amazed.

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



SIDETRACK

Friday nights get campy.
Photos by Jed Dulanias



BERLIN

Femme's Room w/
Gavin Russom.
Photos by Jerry Nunn



BILLY Masters

"The 'B' in LGBTQ-plus has been fought for, for so long. I'm not going to be the person that's like, 'No, I need a 'P', I need another letter!' I stand by people that have paved this way for somebody like me."—Younger star **Nico Tortorella** discusses the polyamorous relationship he has with Bethany Meyers, who considers herself a lesbian.

James Woods certainly stepped in it last week. It all started with a photo of 10-year-old CJ Duron and his parents Lori and Matt at Orange County Pride. Mom is holding a sign that says, "I Love My Gender Creative Son!", while the dad's says, "My Son Wears Dresses & Makeup ... Get Over It!" Their son is in lots of rainbow colors. I don't know how James Woods found this post or why he commented on it. Then again, the James Woods story I remember involved Sean Young and an ill-placed bottle of super glue. Be that as it may, Woods re-Tweeted this photo, saying: "This is sweet. Wait until this poor kid grows up, realizes what you've done, and stuffs both of you dismembered into a freezer in the garage." He certainly paints a vivid picture.

Neil Patrick Harris jumped in. "Utterly ignorant and classless, Mr. Woods. I'm friends with this family. You know not of what you speak, and should be ashamed of yourself." Woods snapped back: "Using one's child as a social justice propaganda doll is tantamount to child abuse. This is not about homophobia. Nice try though." He wasn't done. "For the record I have supported human rights of all stripes and persuasions, colors, creeds, choices and preferences my entire life. Period."

But not period, as he added, "Some children can be ruthlessly cruel to children who are simply different in any way. I humbly suggest making your child a target is unwise." And he had more to say: "I spent my entire adult life in the New York theatre scene, kids. I have more gay friends than Liberace. So let's stop the homophobia train." He continued: "This is not a defense. I'm old enough to remember the agony friends suffered for being different. Being wrongly accused of anything is vile." He added: "And of course the final word on all of this is that I frankly don't give a shit what anybody thinks of me."

Were I to ever romantically target someone who is roughly the square root of my age, it would probably be **Thomas Dekker**. Aside from being cute as a button (whatever that means), he's also quite intelligent and quixotic in his approach to life. And, let's face it, I'm a sucker for guyliner. But no need for me to keep my effluent emotions in check—he's married. He made this announcement to let it be known that he's gay—something I thought he did eons ago. Apparently, back then all he did was make it clear he was sexually fluid. What spurred him to speak now was something **Bryan Fuller** said when he received the Outfest Achievement Award on July 6: "I had a brief stint on Heroes where the gay character was 'hetwashed' after the actor's management threatened to pull him from the show if



Nico Tortorella explains his complex relationship.

Photo by Getty Images for GLAAD

he—the character, not the actor—were gay. The character became straight and the actor came out as gay."

Fuller made similar claims in 2007. Dekker remembers it differently, saying, "I would like it to be known by everyone, that I have played a gay character three times before in my career—one when I was 12 (which is on YouTube), one when I was 15 and another when I was 17. I, nor my management, have ever had any kind of problem with creating a gay character. What transpired on heroes is something far more complicated than anyone being 'afraid' to make Zach homosexual."

In 2011, he elaborated on his feelings when he was told the character would come out: "I went through the fucking roof! If you're going to have a gay character on your show come out and be a pioneer for kids, I would've liked to play that from the get-go, from my perspective. I went to set and said to the writers, 'I really wish that it wouldn't have been five hours before I come into work that I get this news that [the character] I'd been playing for the last 12 episodes knows and is comfortable with the fact that he is gay. Because I would've played this very differently.' But I said I'd do it, and then a couple hours later the creator, Tim Kring, showed up and said, 'No, no, no. We're going to change it.'"

What Dekker is upset about now is the part where Fuller said "the actor came out as gay." Dekker said, "My sexual orientation once again came into question this week when a prominent gay man used an awards acceptance speech to 'out' me. While he did not mention me by name, the explicit details of his reference made it easy for the public and media to connect the dots. While it is an odd situation, I thank him because it presents a prime opportunity for me to publicly say that I am indeed a man who proudly loves other men. In fact, this April, I married my husband and I could not be happier. I have never

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lied to the press about the fluidity of my sexuality but this man claiming that I came out is not true. Because I have not 'officially' until this very moment."

Our "Ask Billy" question had me stumped. Russell wrote, "I heard **Sam on Big Brother** whipped out his cock on the live feed. Do you have it? Is it huge?"

Not being a devotee of Mrs. Moonves, I don't know a thing about Big Brother. But I dutifully looked and found no Sam. I went back to Russell's email and saw he is in England. So I tried Big Brother UK and, WOW, Sam almost poked out an eye! So, yes, I have it, yes, it's huge, and yes, you can see it on BillyMasters.com.

When we're bringing you the "big" in Big Brother, it's definitely time to end yet another column. If you have a question, send it along to BillyMasters.com—the site that's all about fluids. If you have a question, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before James Woods merits another mention in this column. So, until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

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