

NEW YORK RESTAURANTS



GRUB STREET

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Openings

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'Top Chef' Winner Finally Gets in the Game



Top Chef is roundly mocked in culinary circles, but that might change with the opening of *Perilla*, announced by Rob and Robin in [this week's issue](#). The winner of the show's first season, Harold Dieterle, has launched a small but serious Pan-Asian restaurant in the West Village, and its menu doesn't look like the work of a cheesy TV wannabe. Spicy duck meatballs look like a response to the famous Italian version served at *A Voce*; crispy sautéed skate wing with watermelon pickles, Thai basil, and hibiscus broth reads like a Zak Pelaccio homage. Dieterle has entered the real-world top-chef competition that is New York, and it looks like he's starting out strong.

Openings: [Spirito Ristorante](#), [Perilla](#), [Casellula Cheese & Wine Café](#), and [Sandro's](#) [NYM]

[Perilla Menu](#)

And it doesn't matter if Tom and Padma don't like it.
Photo: Melissa Hom

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