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ARTS & LIFE



IN GOOD SPIRITS

Georgia on our minds

We take a sneak peek at Hawksworth Restaurant, soon to be the city's hottest new destination for cocktail lovers

BY JOANNE SASVARI

Only two more days to go, and the anticipation is killing us.

On Monday, the city's cocktail lovers will finally get a chance to see what's been under the tarps and scaffolding at Georgia and Howe these past couple of years. That's the day Hawksworth Restaurant opens its doors to the public (with a grand opening the night before), and bar and lounge manager Brad Stanton finally gets to start serving his Hotel Georgia Cocktail.

"We inherited the Hotel Georgia Cocktail from 1945," he says of the fragrant gin, lemon,



GERRY KAHRMANN/PNG

Brad Stanton can't wait to serve the Georgia Hotel Cocktail.

orange and orange flower water concoction. "I'm so lucky. It's a really good cocktail."

And by the looks of it, this is

The Hotel Georgia Cocktail

Brad Stanton was delighted to inherit this classic cocktail from the 1940s and, with only a few tweaks to the measurements, has updated it for today's cocktailians.

1 ¾ ounces Plymouth gin
¾ ounce fresh lemon juice
½ ounce orgeat (almond syrup)

6 drops orange blossom water
1 egg white

Place all ingredients in a cocktail shaker and "dry shake" (without ice) vigorously until quite frothy. Add ice and shake again until well chilled, then double-strain into a chilled cocktail glass.

Serves 1.

also going to be a really good bar. Small, intimate and subtly glamorous, with a hand-moulded ceiling and lively street views across Georgia to

the Vancouver Art Gallery, this is bound to become a place to see and be seen. It leads into the elegant Hawksworth Restaurant, chef David Hawksworth's

much-anticipated gourmet destination and the first stage of the rebirth of the venerable Hotel Georgia as the Rosewood Hotel Georgia.

This city landmark originally opened in 1927, and over the decades hosted the likes of Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, the Beatles and even the Queen. But in recent years it fell victim to neglect and careless renovations, and was more likely to welcome budget tour groups than celebrities.

All that will change with the meticulous, loving restoration taking place under the ownership of the Rosewood Group.

The hotel, which opens later this summer, will also feature

a lobby bar called 1927 and a speakeasy-style jazz lounge called Prohibition, which will open this fall. But it's the bar that will set the tone of what's to come. Pull up a chair and watch some of the city's most talented drink makers at work, including Patrick Francis, most recently bar manager at Bao Bei.

"There won't be a bottle that doesn't have a purpose or a bottle that I'm not fond of," Stanton promises.

Special to The Sun

Hawksworth Restaurant, in the Rosewood Hotel Georgia at 801 West Georgia St., <http://hawksworthrestaurant.com>.

