

TABLES

Mida opens soon, the Automatic arrives, and other restaurant news

By Kara Baskin | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT NOVEMBER 25, 2016

Openings: Casual Italian restaurant **Mida** is poised to open in the South End on Nov. 29, replacing the short-lived Cluckit! poultry parlor (782 Tremont St. at Massachusetts Avenue). Chef-owner Douglass Williams has cooked at Radius, Coppa, and New York's Corton. Now he serves handmade pastas from a menu that skips from charred to spicy, crunchy, and crispy, according to a release. Expect a friendly atmosphere, too — “handshakes and hugs are mandatory,” promises Mida's website.

After a few days of quietly serving cocktails, the **Automatic** has officially opened for dinner in Inman Square (50 Hampshire St. at Clark Street). East Coast Grill mastermind Chris Schlesinger and beloved B-Side Lounge bartender Dave Cagle are behind the venture, housed in the old Atasca space. In a previous interview with the Globe, Cagle described the menu as “fun, fast, flavorful but not fussy.” Feast on decidedly unfussy dishes like Frito chili pie, fried plantains, and an “international sausage bomb of the moment” from chef Ian Andreotta, accompanied by banana daiquiris and frozen mudslides. It opens for lunch soon.



JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF

MIDA chef-owner Douglass Williams