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Terrene owner to bring new Christian James restaurant to the Joinery downtown

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Joinery Hotel Pittsburgh

The exterior of the Joinery Hotel Pittsburgh.

Partners Kimberley Ashlee and Joshua Haugh are concocting a new fictional character to personify their commitment to a varied and well-traveled cuisine at their new restaurant Christian James, set to open in the Joinery downtown in the new year.

Ashlee is perhaps best known for a busy catering and food truck business that helped her to launch Terrene Pittsburgh, a bowl-based fast casual restaurant at Station Square.

According to an announcement by Specialty Group, which represented the hotel in bringing the new restaurant on board to replace the former Or, The Whale, Christian James is a fictional character who travels the world and brings home various dishes of global cuisines.

It's an inspirational ruse to motivate a rotating menu of dishes to "celebrate all cultures and the unique differences in taste many experience throughout their trips abroad," according to the announcement.

The new restaurant is scheduled to open on Thursday, Jan. 26.

Diners at the new restaurant can expect to a variety of cooking techniques, making use of a hardwood-fired grill, sous-vide cooking as well and slow cooking.

Sidney Sokoloff, principal of Specialty, emphasized that diners can expect a broader range of sensory experience beyond the food when they go to Christian James when it opens in the new year.




Tim Schooley

Reporter - *Pittsburgh Business Times*

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