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BY MICHAEL MINA

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**Chef Michael Mina Announces Evolution of XIV**

*New a la carte menu will be featured in addition to signature tasting menu*

LOS ANGELES (February 24, 2009) – XIV and Michael Mina have unveiled a new menu format for Spring which offers guests an a la carte dining option in addition to the restaurant’s signature tasting menu. The new menu will include appetizers and entrees inspired by the modern-American dishes Mina created for XIV in addition to his classics like Lobster Pot Pie and an American Kobe Burger. As before, guests can also choose to create a personalized tasting menu from the 35 vegetarian selections or 25 vegan options. A list of small bites has also been created for The Terrace at XIV, an elegant outdoor space, which features Mina’s playful take on classic American fare like Lobster Corn Dogs.

“We are excited to offer our guests additional dining options at XIV,” says Mina. “By introducing new items alongside our signature tasting menus we feel XIV will offer a variety of experiences to diners- those celebrating special occasions and those who relish the laid-back culture and lifestyle of Southern California.”

“XIV was conceived as a restaurant for everyone – social dining – as we like to say,” adds Sam Nazarian, president of SBE Entertainment. “Our new menu allows people to come in and relax on those nights when a burger is in order.”

Designed to provide options for all tastes, XIV’s menu is comprised of approachable comfort food and Mina’s modern take on American cuisine. Divided into *Appetizers*, *Entrees*, *Cheese* and *Dessert*, the menu offers guests the choice of simply ordering an entrée as their meal or composing a more formal, coursed menu. This versatility allows the dining experience to be amenable to many tastes and preferences.

In addition to the new menu, XIV is also launching The Terrace, Philippe Starck’s whimsical “secret garden” atmosphere embraced by a foliage-lined trellis. Black and white cross-hatched chairs saddle up to elegant tables topped with a candle’s flickering lights, chandeliers and lamp shades hang from the roof, wheelbarrow-shaped chairs are placed next to small tables for a relaxing cocktail and a foliage lined trellis encloses the space.

An outdoor marble bar offers modern versions of Prohibition-era cocktails as well as classic concoctions like the Rob Roy and Side Car. Flickering candelabras adorn the back bar where distressed mirrors reflect the activity on the patio behind. After 11pm on weekends, a DJ will spin music making the transition from dinner to drinks seamless.

With the launch of the new menu and new additions to The Terrace, XIV will offer the quintessential dining experience on the Sunset Strip- a gathering spot to come early and stay late.