



NEW SOCIETY
experimental cocktail lab



New Society is redefining the terms of what cocktails can be.

FEAST MAGAZINE

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about

Nestled in the vibrant heart of St. Louis, New Society stands as a unique and intimate culinary-focused cocktail bar, a brainchild of the acclaimed mixologists Michael Fricker, nominated for the prestigious James Beard Award in 2023, and Meredith Barry, renowned for her expertise showcased on the hit Netflix series, Drink Masters. At New Society, we believe that each cocktail should be more than just a drink; it should be a narrative, a reflection of the world we live in. Our menu, curated with precision and passion, brings to life the stories that often go unheard.

Led by Michael's and Meredith's innovative approach & creative flair, our speakeasy is an exploration of flavors and a commentary on the pressing issues of our time. Picture sipping a cocktail that mirrors the delicate taste of oysters, sparking a conversation about the urgent matter of overfishing in our oceans. Or indulge in a libation inspired by a charcuterie board, symbolizing the complexities of food classism and the challenges faced in grocery store deserts. New Society is more than a bar; it's a platform for meaningful dialogue, a culinary journey that transcends taste and ventures into the realm of societal reflection. Join us at New Society, where every sip tells a story, and every story paints a richer picture of our shared experiences.



sauce

11 new St. Louis bars we love



Best New Bar:
New Society

FEAST

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It's a cerebral experience, but it's also soulful, with some of the best-made drinks you will ever have. From savory concoctions to a flawlessly executed daiquiri, New Society has everything you could ever want in a bar – and even more of what you never knew was out there.

RIVERFRONT TIMES





Michael Fricker



Meredith Barry



With a culinary journey that spans the prestigious kitchens of The Reeds at Shelter Haven and the Four Seasons St. Louis, Michael Fricker has seamlessly transitioned from the world of haute cuisine to the artistry of mixology. In 2021, he and his wife were celebrated as the River Front Times' Best Bartenders, a testament to his exceptional skills and dedication to the craft. In 2023, Michael garnered further acclaim by earning the title of Best Bartender once again, a recognition of his unwavering commitment to pushing the boundaries of flavor and creativity.

His other venture, with his wife Natasha Bahrami The Gin Room, received accolades as a 2023 James Beard Semifinalist for Outstanding Bar, solidifying Michael's reputation as a trailblazer in the industry. Expanding his passion for unique spirits and flavors, he introduced Grand Spirits Bottle Shop & Bar, a haven for agave enthusiasts and natural wine connoisseurs. Michael's latest endeavor, New Society, is a culinary-focused cocktail speakeasy, where his innovative approach to mixology intertwines with storytelling, creating an immersive experience for patrons. Michael Fricker continues to redefine the cocktail landscape, infusing each creation with a touch of culinary magic and a dash of unparalleled expertise.

Meredith Barry, award winning bartender and seasoned figure in the hospitality industry, discovered her passion for hospitality during her early days at her father's work. Meredith soon evolved into curating craft cocktails at renowned Chicago bars and beverage programs like Ombra, Sable, and Volume 39. Meredith's journey is marked by an unwavering commitment to providing a genuine experience. Meredith was the national champion of Compass Box's scotch competition in 2018, a national finalist in the Gra't Grappa Competition in 2017, and recipient of a Michelin Bib Gourmand in 2015.

Co-owner of Platypus, a top-ranking bar with an ever-changing menu in Saint Louis, MO, Meredith has transformed it into an eclectic space, recognized as the Best Late Night Bar by the RiverFront Times. Meredith was recognized as part of an industry dream team by STL Magazine in 2019 and crowned Best Bartender by RiverFront Times in 2021. Her participation in Netflix's high-stakes mixology competition DRINK MASTERS showcases her innovative approach to cocktails and dedication to pushing boundaries. Meredith Barry is not just a mixologist; she's a creator of experiences, consistently building bridges between flavors, sounds, and people in the dynamic realm of hospitality.



FEAST

James Beard Foundation Semifinalist – Outstanding Bar, The Gin Room



Best Bartender 2023

KMOV4

Episode 217: Mixologist Meredith Barry of Platypus

NETFLIX

Drink Masters Season 1