

MODERN LUXURY

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Interiors

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THE HOTTEST REAL
ESTATE LISTINGS OF
THE SEASON



From top: The airy, street-facing dining room at Le Colonial reinterprets French Indochina decor for its new location on Oak Street. Gai Cuon (\$14) is a chilled shrimp roll filled with rice noodles, lettuce, bean sprouts and herbs, served with a peanut-plum dipping sauce.



EAT YOUR GREENS

"Fresh" describes the design as well as the food at this lush new crop of restaurants.

By Nicole Ross

From oversize plants to ivy walls, the greenery trend is sprouting up everywhere—especially in the city's newest restaurants. At the newly relocated 20-year-old Chicago icon **Le Colonial**, an enclosed porch, exotic plants and banana-palm murals play into the 1920s French Colonial-Vietnam vibe. "Historic Southeast Asian influences and French haute couture combine to create an atmosphere that is deeply rooted in French Indochina," says designer Mark Knauer, noting the inclusion of fine art from Hanoi and a bar top, hardware and light fixtures. CONTINUED...

PHOTOS BY NEIL BAUGER



...CONTINUED imported from France. If that doesn't impress you, the food will. 57 E. Oak St., lecolonialchicago.com

A spinoff of the West Town concept, **Beatnik on the River** is practically an arboretum, housing fiddle leaf figs, areca palms, a collection of cacti and more. "The desire to transport guests to the tropical lushness of Bali was an original and central aspect of Beatnik's design," says Daniel Alonso, managing partner and co-founder of Bonhomme Hospitality Group. "Greenery is fundamental in creating that feeling of nature." 180 N. Upper Wacker Drive, beatnikontheriver.com

Stephanie Izard fans, take note: The Iron Chef isn't handing over her title as goat queen just yet—think *Girl & the Goat*, *Little Goat* and *Duck Duck Goat*. **Cabra**, which fittingly means "goat" in Spanish, is her Peruvian-inspired concept perched atop The Hoxton hotel. You'll be lucky to get a seat next to its showcase kitchen, which is anchored in glossy teal tiles, or at its ivy-covered bar. Then again, the lush outside terrace—complete with a pool, daybeds and skyline views—might be the way to go. 200 N. Green St., cabrachicago.com



From top: Beatnik on the River gives off an exuberant vibe of boho fun; Stephanie Izard's newest restaurant, Cabra, is inspired by Peruvian cuisine, including the country's famous ceviche (\$15-\$18); Machine goes for the greenery with a floral shop in the restaurant, where patrons can buy arrangements to take home or experiment with a few buds to decorate the table.



While **Machine's** urban, industrial vibe is reflective of its name, the restaurant's in-house flower shop adds a refreshing element of nature. At **The Florist**, you'll find preassembled bouquets, a build-your-own-bouquet program and a tableside flower cart service, allowing guests to add color to their dining experience and proving that few things breathe life into a space like greenery. 1846 W. Division St., dinemachine.com ■

FROM TOP: PHOTOS BY ETHAN KOLLE; CALDONESI PHOTOGRAPHY; MATTHEW BEEVES