

The Grand Piano Bistro

By Kelly Moore

IF YOU'RE IN THE MOOD FOR A MELODY – AND LOBSTER DIM SUM – THIS IS YOUR PLACE. A PIANO BAR WITH A FULL MENU OF UPTOWN (YET AFFORDABLE) FARE, THE GRAND PIANO BISTRO IS ONE PLACE YOU'LL WANT TO TAKE OUT-OF-TOWNERS.

Owners Sara Middleton and Tony Bohnenkamp patronized piano bars for years and thoroughly established a wish list for the piano bar they would create. Topping that list – a strong culinary accompaniment to the musical acts.

Former Art House chef Tag Grandgeorge's dinner menu includes more than 15 small plates, such as Duck Sliders and Corn Beignets, as well as novel entrees like Sole Saltimbocca and a Vietnamese Vermicelli Noodle Salad.

Grandgeorge's more common dishes, like French fries, even offer a twist – literally. As servers deliver the Margarita Potato Sticks, they suggest that diners spritz the sticks with lime for a great flavor combination.

Second on the owners' wish list: a high-energy, urban setting. Middleton was working as general manager of the Hessen Haus while mapping out The Grand Piano Bistro in her mind, and Court Avenue was the most palatable location to her. However, a relentless realtor located what would become their ideal space at 506 East Grand in the East Village.

"Once I spent time here, found our space and really got to know the community, I knew it was not only right, but ideal," said Middleton. **core**



The Grand Piano Bistro

The Place

506 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
(515) 243-2380
www.thegrandpianobistro.com

The Acts

Wednesdays: Pianopalooza with Tony Bohnenkamp and Jared Hall
Thursdays: Jazz Night
Fridays and Saturdays: National Dueling Piano Acts, \$5 cover

The Hours

Monday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday: 11 a.m. to Midnight
(Kitchen: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.)
Wednesday - Friday: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
(Kitchen: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.)
Saturday: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
(Kitchen: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

Some Tuesday acts
Music starts between
8:30 & 9:00 p.m.
Full schedule available at
www.thegrandpianobistro.com