news release

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THE AVIARY NYC TO OPEN AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL, NEW YORK

Mandarin Oriental, New York in partnership with the Alinea Group co-owners Grant Achatz and Nick Kokonas, to debut first New York City state-of-the-art restaurant for drinks in summer 2017

Hong Kong, 6 March 2017 – <u>Mandarin Oriental, New York</u> and Chicago-based co-owners Chef Grant Achatz and Nick Kokonas of the widely-acclaimed <u>Alinea Group</u> are delighted to announce the opening of **The Aviary NYC** in summer 2017. The concept is Chef Achatz and Kokonas' inaugural hotel partnership and first location outside of Chicago.

Following the success of the award-winning Aviary in Chicago, **The Aviary NYC** will deliver a distinctive culinary approach to cocktails and service. Guests will enjoy an interactive experience, featuring an open kitchen where inventive cocktails and small food plates that complement the drink experience, will be masterminded by chefs and bartenders.

The Aviary NYC will reflect the core principles of the Chicago flagship while taking inspiration from the historically-rich cocktail culture of New York City. Set on the 35th floor of Mandarin Oriental, New York, The Aviary NYC will comprise 90 seats and feature sweeping views of Central Park and the New York City skyline. An adjacent space, The Office, will provide a speakeasy-style cloistered and more private environment, with 40 seats. This will feature a world-class rare spirits collection, classic cocktails, and an entirely different food menu from that offered at The Aviary.

Tihany Design is leading the design concept for both spaces.

"Given our location in the heart of one of the world's premier culinary destinations, it is extremely exciting to collaborate with these talented restaurateurs and introduce The Aviary concept to Mandarin Oriental, New York," said Susanne Hatje, General Manager.



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"The opening of **The Aviary NYC** and the innovative creations curated by both Chef Achatz and Mr. Kokonas will elevate our commitment to providing guests with exceptional and unforgettable culinary experiences and will further position both our hotel and the Mandarin Oriental brand as leaders in the world of gastronomy."

"There are only a handful of iconic spaces like this in the world," said Nick Kokonas, co-owner of The Alinea Group. "We feel a profound responsibility to design the space, the kitchens, and the menus to reflect not only our desire to exceed our guests' expectations, but also to honor the rich legacy of Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group and the New York restaurant and hospitality community."

The Aviary NYC joins the Alinea Group of restaurants including: Alinea, Next and Roister. The Aviary NYC at Mandarin Oriental, New York will open summer 2017.

About Mandarin Oriental, New York

A stunning fusion of modern design with stylish Oriental flair, Mandarin Oriental, New York features 244 elegant guestrooms and suites — all with breathtaking views of Manhattan and Five-Star hospitality. Luxurious amenities include Asiate, the hotel's elegant restaurant; the Lobby Lounge with dramatic views of Central Park; a 14,500 square-foot Five-Star Mandarin Oriental Spa; and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a 75-foot lap pool. In addition, there is premium meeting and event space, including a 6,000 square-foot pillar-less ballroom with three walls of windows overlooking Central Park. Located in Columbus Circle's Time Warner Center, Mandarin Oriental, New York is in an idyllic location just steps away from world-class dining, shopping and entertainment, including the Broadway Theater District, Lincoln Center, Central Park, Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Time Warner Center's Lincoln collection of upscale retail shops and restaurants.



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About The Aviary (The Alinea Group)

The Aviary debuted in Chicago in 2011 and takes a distinctly culinary approach to cocktails and their service. A stunning open kitchen greets every guest upon arrival and the chefs and bartenders are on full view while creating fun, delicious, and inventive cocktails and food that are innovative while remaining approachable. Even the ice is given purpose beyond dilution and temperature with over 30 types that play with texture and shifting flavors, with an ice-chef dedicated to their production. Specialty glassware and service ware, often designed for a single drink, has become iconic and is sold throughout the world. Food is given equal attention, focusing on small plates that complement the drink selections. The Aviary won the 2013 James Beard Award for the Outstanding Bar Program in The United States.

About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the world's most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. Having grown from its Asian roots into a global brand, the Group now operates 29 hotels and eight residences in 19 countries and territories, with each property reflecting the Group's oriental heritage and unique sense of place. Mandarin Oriental has a strong pipeline of hotels and residences under development, with the next hotel opening planned in Doha. Mandarin Oriental is a member of the Jardine Matheson Group.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the <u>Photo Library</u> of our <u>Media</u> section, at <u>www.mandarinoriental.com</u>.

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