

CATEGORY: COMMERCIAL

HONOR AWARD

PROJECT Bar Bambino
LOCATION San Francisco, California
FIRM Aidlin Darling Design
CLIENT Christopher Losa

URBAN OASIS A confluence of good food and meticulous design transcends the unlikely setting of this new wine bar and enoteca envisioned as a casual neighborhood stop. From its gritty urban block, the restaurant emerges as a glowing vitrine, its crystalline façade alive with people and sparkling lights. Throughout the day, views into and through the space invite passersby to step in.

Like the cuisine served within, this elegant room relies on craft and honest materials rather than opulence to conjure its luscious quality. A wall of thinly sliced-T-11 siding, stained white and framed in steel, imbues the space with warmth and texture, drawing guests to the tranquil rear garden, a rare oasis within the city.

Wine-bottle light fixtures—a collaboration of client, architect and local artisans—signal the restaurant’s devotion to fine Italian wines. The sensual lines and worn surfaces of the reclaimed classic furnishings contrast with the architecture’s underlying discipline.

JUROR COMMENTS

“A hidden treasure.”

“Precise yet very warm with an element of play.”

“I would love a table outdoors.”

CLIENT COMMENT

“My restaurant is as ‘neighborhood-y’ as I envisioned and inviting to the entire city. It has exceeded all expectations.”

DESIGN TEAM
Joshua Aidlin, David Darling, Susan Barnes

PROJECT TEAM
General Contractor: Northern Sun
Structural Engineer: Jon Brody Consulting Engineers

PHOTOGRAPHER
Matthew Millman

