

FOOD & WINE

Miami: On Watch



Paid Content | The Salty Donut, Donna Irene, donnairenephotography.com

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Chef Michelle Bernstein of CENA by Michy is captivated by the development of Wynwood, Miami's booming arts district.

With thanks to Art Basel and the community-building efforts of developers like the late Tony Goldman, what was once a blighted warehouse district just north of downtown Miami has experienced a cultural renaissance in recent years.

"One of the most impactful art scenes in the world has flourished in Wynwood, and we got to see it all happen," says Michelle, whose connection to Miami's creative awakening runs deep as the official caterer for Art Basel. "Wynwood is part of the greatest transition I've seen in this city. The growth of the area has given way to great food and great people that want to support it." Wynwood's now-legendary collection of street-art murals and galleries has indeed helped create demand for the funky retail and restaurant landscape that's bubbling up in the neighborhood these days. Here, Michelle breaks down a few places that are currently tripping her radar.

Wynwood Walls

You can't talk about Wynwood without first talking about the Wynwood Walls. Even if you haven't visited the Walls, you've probably seen them—thanks to social platforms like Instagram, the ever-rotating outdoor murals from artists like How&Nosm and Shepard Fairey may be some of the most widely documented public artworks in history. The murals were originally the brainchild of Tony Goldman, a visionary real estate developer whose work in reviving areas like Wynwood and South Beach is an inspiration for Michelle [NOTE FW/SP, INSERT HYPERLINK TO THE MIA "SIX DEGREES OF INSPIRATION" HERE SO THAT THE READER CAN LEARN ABOUT GOLDMAN]. "My husband and I take our son Zachary to see the Walls every month," says the chef, who is trying to build a [flower installation](#) inspired by the artist Fafi at home. "The art is incredible and the people watching is never-ending. It's a place we love and where our son can roam free and explore." *Wynwood Walls: 2520 NW 2nd Ave, Miami; 305-531-4411; thewynwoodwalls.com*