

*Cafe Capriccio's Autumn Menu Celebrates Tuscan Cuisine and the Cafe's Partnership with Fattoria Lavacchio, Noted Wine and Olive Oil Producer in Tuscany.*

Jim Rua Cafe Capriccio's founder and Faye Lottero, proprietor of the renowned Tuscan wine estate Fattoria Lavacchio -- and its companion restaurant Mulino a Vento -- have initiated a culinary collaboration that will showcase the unique food, wine and culture of Tuscany in the authentic setting for which Café Capriccio has been well known for thirty years.



Fattoria Lavacchio is a certified organic vineyard producing eight varieties of fine wine, including Chianti *Rufina* and *Riserva*, the extraordinary Super Tuscan *Fontegalli*, the vineyard's proprietary white *Pachar*, its award-winning Vin Santo and *Oro Del Cedro* dessert wines and two varieties of *grappa*, the true spirit of Italy. The Fattoria also produces one of the region's finest organic olive oils. Ristorante Mulino a Vento serves classic Tuscan cuisine prepared exclusively from local, organically farmed meats, vegetables and fruit.

Cafe Capriccio has been named by *Metroland* as the Capital Region's "Best Restaurant" for the last three consecutive years, and many times previously.

Now it's official. We are working together! Cafe Capriccio will continue as the Capital Region's authentic practitioner of the great Tuscan culinary arts and traditions. Our collaboration with Faye Lottero and with Fattoria Lavacchio's talented wine maven, Tommaso Venturi, will allow Cafe Capriccio's chefs, sommeliers and servers to work side by side with their Tuscan counterparts. We plan a vigorous exchange of personnel and ideas throughout the year, in Albany and in the Tuscan hills overlooking the magical city of Florence. We will also be offering new and exciting cooking excursions to Tuscany for professionals and others interested in Tuscan cuisine and culture.



Ms. Lottero added that "Jim has been to our home and vineyard so often and has taken so many guests to Fattoria Lavacchio that coming together now seems to all of us to be a natural extension of Jim's work at Café Capriccio and ours at Fattoria Lavacchio. Our collaboration will bring authentic Tuscan food and wine to the sophisticated palates of Café Capriccio's many friends and guests. Cafe Capriccio will be Fattoria Lavacchio's Ambassador to the United States, offering our special wines and serving wonderful cuisine in the Tuscan tradition."

Cafe Capriccio's Autumn menu will be available beginning on Monday, October 24. It will offer Tuscan specialties for every course on its varied menu. And long-time patrons can be assured that the Cafe's own original dishes will always be offered.



Jim Rua, October, 2011