

## Didier Leroy of Restaurant DIDIER joins elite, 'Maîtres-Cuisiniers de France'

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Didier Leroy has once again proven that he is a consummate professional of the cooking world, having recently been titled Master Chef of France, (Maître-Cuisinier de France), during a ceremony in Lille, France. This recognition is sought after by some of the finest Chefs worldwide dedicated to Classic French Cuisine. With his innate knowledge and passion for the food and flavours of his culture, Didier has embraced the art of the French culinary world that has lead him to this elite Association of the Master Chefs of France.

About 400 chefs around the world share this coveted title, (only three in Canada), and are chosen to become Master Chefs of France based upon their dedication to the Association's motto; "To preserve and spread the French culinary art, encourage training in cuisine, and assist in professional development". This is an extraordinary recognition for which members of the Association of the Master Chefs of France are given the highest classification in restaurant guides and specialized publications. This refined club promotes professional excellence through international cooking events, shows and competitions.

"It is amazing for me to be awarded this high honour – and it's fantastic for this great city of Toronto. I am very proud. For me, this is the ultimate recognition and there were only five other chefs from the US and Canada who were awarded the title this year", exclaims Chef Didier. "It is a privilege to know that my passion for cooking and teaching what I believe is the world's finest type of cuisine, has been noticed. I am thrilled to be part of this elite group of chefs – it is a dream come true."

Didier Leroy graduated from the prestigious Ecole Hôtelière Mederic, after which he honed his craft at Michelin-Starred restaurants in Paris before moving to Canada in 1988. Didier has headed up kitchens in some of the finest dining establishments in Toronto, including 'The Fifth', which was named 'Best Restaurant in Toronto, 2000', Opus and Auberge Gavroche, to name a few.

Chef Didier has mentored many aspiring young chefs/cooks in Toronto and has served as Official Executive Chef for the French Consulate General since 1990. He has been operating his namesake restaurant with partner, Tory Edwards, for four and a half years providing only the finest in Classic French Cuisine for his privileged guests.

Please save the date May 27th to toast Didier Leroy, and sample the menu – Details to come!

About Restaurant Didier: Nestled between Forest Hill and Rosedale, 'DIDIER' is truly a little piece of Paris in mid-town Toronto. Decidedly European, the space offers sophisticated charm with rich oak paneling and plush draperies. The menu consists of elegantly simple Classic French dishes prepared with the finest, freshest local and imported ingredients. Nightly Prix Fixe changes monthly while Lunch and Brunch menus offer up seasonal à la carte selections. Prices are surprisingly affordable.

About Maîtres-Cuisiniers de France (Master Chef of France): In 1951, the Association of the Master Chefs of France was created and in 1960 had 115 members under the presidency of Armand Froissand. Members of the Association of the Master Chefs of France are the most important group of top French chefs worldwide, and are recognized as experts and authorities in the art of French Cuisine.

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