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COMMUNITY AND EXPERIENCE-DRIVEN VENUE ENIGMA OPENS ON U STREET

WASHINGTON, DC (December 7, 2023) – [Enigma](#), an experiential cocktail lounge and wine vault located at 1330 U Street NW, opens Saturday, December 9th by the [CLH Group](#). Helmed by Hakim Alston, David Ayalew, and Dee Haile, the collective group brings a vision of an avant-garde social hub to life on U Street, redefining the storytelling of dining and social engagement.



Photo Credit: [Hawkeye Johnson](#)

“We believe that diversity and the fusion of different ideas and cultures can create magical moments – this belief fueled our fire to develop this conceptual venue,” said **Hakim Alston, a Creative Director and Managing Member of CLH Group**. “We don’t just serve dishes and drinks, we serve experiences that echo our foundational belief that we are better together.”

The 3,400 square-foot venue immerses guests with provocative shareable plates, a robust wine list, “No Label” craft cocktails, and hypnotic lively music housed within an intentional and sophisticated interior designed by [Koos Interiors](#). With three levels, Enigma is filled with intimately curated leather couches, a custom-crafted booth that wraps around the first level, an enveloping sound system by [DAS Audio](#), and unique and enigmatic art and decor that inspires conversation.



Photo Credit: [Hawkeye Johnson](#)

Enigma’s food and beverage program invites guests to embark on an international journey that fits their craving for spicy, zesty, or sweet. “No Label” craft cocktails marry refined flavors with rare liquors resulting in cocktails such as **Smoldering**, a twist on an Old-Fashioned made with reposado tequila, maple spiced syrup, and Angostura bitters, served in a smoke box. The carefully selected wine list brings an expanded pallet of over 50 global wines ranging from Nicolas Millet Les Grand Champs from Sancerre, France, to Kentia, Albariño from Spain, back to the US with a Burlier Cabernet Sauvignon from Napa.

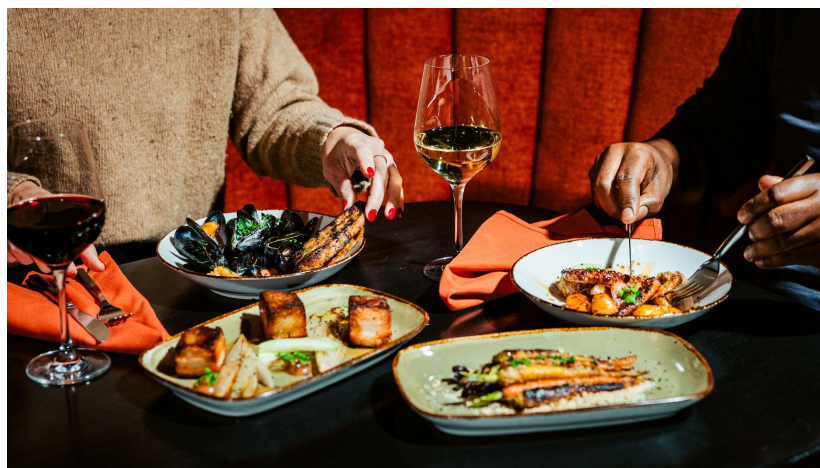


Photo Credit: [Hawkeye Johnson](#)

Sharable plates include Mushroom Croquettes featuring an exotic mix of chanterelle, blue oyster, and maitake mushrooms in a saffron aioli; Grilled Octopus accompanied with an olive tapenade, fingerling potatoes, and Calabrian chili vinaigrette; and Duck Fat Fries with house-made catsup.

[CLH Group](#) is a connected group of influential, creative, and talented entrepreneurial operators and innovative brands. Managing Members of CLH Group Hakim Alston, David Ayalew, and Dee Haile bring a wealth of experience creating purpose-driven brands and exciting venues that spark connection.

Enigma opens Saturday, December 9th with soft opening hours until December 13th when the venue opens from 4 pm to close seven days a week. In January, patrons can look forward to expanded hours, including a vibrant weekend brunch and weekday coffee hours featuring international cuisines and traditions.

ABOUT ENIGMA

Enigma, an experiential cocktail lounge and wine vault, is a diverse social hub on U Street. Enigma aims to break boundaries, promote diversity and inclusion, and challenge societal norms by blending dining, a cocktail lounge, a wine vault, and international nightlife into a unique, cohesive experience. At its core, Enigma is a platform for explorative, emotionally connected culinary adventures, cocktail discoveries, meaningful social interactions, and inclusive experiences that resonate with the dynamic spirit of our diverse patrons. For more information, please visit our website at www.enigmadc.com and follow us on Instagram [@enigmadclounge](https://www.instagram.com/enigmadclounge).

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