

## LUCCIOLA. Surprise! Your Little Bologna Kicked Off in NY

Tommaso Cartia (November 28, 2017)



The eclectic mind of Michele Casadei Massari and his partners already at the head of the popular joint *Piccolo Cafe*, shed a new light on NY's Italian dining scene. *LUCCIOLA* (firefly), is their new Italian restaurant on Manhattan's Upper West Side, pays homage to the city of Bologna with its cuisine and its cinematic history in a unique and exciting atmosphere. The restaurant kicked off with exquisite Bolognese food and wine, a cool music set list and surprise guests for an opening in style!

The restaurant launched by [Michele Casadei Massari](#), [2] Alberto Ghezzi and Gianluca Capozzi, with co-founders Erica Monti and Luca Filicol, takes inspiration from the film "[Festa di Laurea](#)," ([Graduation Party](#)) [3], directed by [Pupi Avati](#) [4]with for its dishes, atmosphere, and the overall concept. This incredible space reflects the nostalgic and romantic mood of [Bologna](#) [5]that Avati depicted, especially his famous courtyard scene where the simple illumination was reminiscent of fireflies. [LUCCIOLA](#) [6](firefly in Italian), is located down the street from Central Park, where the



most fireflies can be found in the city.

It is dedicated to the actor in Avati's film, [Nik Novecento](#) [7], who embodied the values of Bologna, from his passion, soul, courageousness, and kindness. Novecento died at a young age and to commemorate his memory they have created a place in New York where he could have come and spent time.

The restaurant also provides a new space for Italian artists to express themselves: [Marco Gallotta](#) [8] is the creator and designer of the wallpaper and artworks; Marina Vanni e Cristina Guidoni from [StudioEmporioHome](#) [9] (based in Savigno, Bologna) designed "Madre Lucciola" lamp inspired and in memory of Nik Novecento.

The LUCCIOLA menu features a front page replica of [Corriere della Sera](#) [10] from February 1st, 1975, in which legendary film director [Pier Paolo Pasolini](#) [11] published one of his last pieces just months before he was murdered. Pasolini utilized "luciole" as a symbol and metaphor of part of our society.

### **The Opening**

New Yorkers got their first "taste" of LUCCIOLA on Wednesday, November 29. Michele's team pulled out the best of their delicious menu that is already a favorite among lovers of Italian food in NY. Like Piccolo Cafe, the restaurant promises to introduce the great tradition of Bolognese cuisine to the American tables. The room was abuzz, a full house with people lining up to enjoy the exquisite food, red wine and sparkling [Berlucchi wine](#) [12]. A special risotto dish was also made with truffles provided by [Urbani Truffles](#) [13]. A wonderful dessert by [Fabbri 1905](#) [14] served as the perfect toast to celebrate LUCCIOLA's birthday. A lively but cozy atmosphere, warmed up by the cozy firefly like lights. The music selection by [DJ Ricky Russo](#) [15] set the mood for a perfect Italian evening with people singing along with Italian classics and international hip jams. The public was even treated to some celebrity surprises. [Frankie hi-nrg mc](#) [16], an Italian rapper, had everyone moving to the beat as he performed some of his signature raps. A surprise appearance was also made by Hollywood legendary [Edward Lachman](#) [17], cinematographer of notable films like Erin Brockovich, The Virgin Suicides, and Far from Heaven, an affectionate of Michele's cuisine.

LUCCIOLA is made of art, cinematography, music, excellent food. A bohemian vibe that will push you in the dreamy atmosphere of the old Bologna here for you now in NYC.

### **Address:**

[621 Amsterdam Ave New York, NY 10024](#) [18]

### **For more info:**

Instagram&Twitter [@Lucciolanyc](#) [19]

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### **Links**

[1] <http://newsite.iitaly.org/files/luciolacoverpng-0>

[2] <http://italiany.us/michele-casadei-massari/>

[3] <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0089136/>

[4] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pupi\\_Avati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pupi_Avati)

[5] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bologna>



- [6] <http://LUCCIOLA>
- [7] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nik\\_Novecento](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nik_Novecento)
- [8] <http://www.marcogallotta.net>
- [9] <https://twitter.com/sehsavigno?lang=en>
- [10] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corriere\\_della\\_Sera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corriere_della_Sera)
- [11] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pier\\_Paolo\\_Pasolini](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pier_Paolo_Pasolini)
- [12] <http://www.berlucchi.it/en/>
- [13] <https://www.urbani.com>
- [14] <http://www.fabbriusa.com>
- [15] <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ricky-russo-b8039682>
- [16] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankie\\_hi-nrg\\_mc](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankie_hi-nrg_mc)
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