

# ATLANTA BUSINESS CHRONICLE

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## Georgian Terrace eatery gives nod to the past

The reinvention of the **Georgian Terrace Hotel** restaurant into a modern nightspot will take a name from Atlanta's past.

Livingston, the new restaurant by San Francisco-based **Puccini Group** and noted chef Gary Mennie, will open in April after a multimillion-dollar renovation. The name honors former Atlanta Mayor Livingston Mims, whose home was on the site where the Georgian Terrace now stands.

Mims, a Civil War veteran who served as Atlanta's mayor from 1901 to 1903, was known as a lavish entertainer.

Matt Reidy, senior managing director of Fremont Realty Capital, the owner of the hotel, said the restaurant will capitalize on its sweeping front terrace for outdoor dining and events. The hotel also will team with The Fox Theatre, Reidy said, to create a dining and entertainment experience for theater patrons.

Mennie will also spearhead the development of the restaurant's signature bar and a café, tentatively known as Mims.

While the fundamental Georgian Terrace architecture and name evoke the

past, Livingston's menu and the refreshed look inside the restaurant will be decidedly in the here and now, Reidy said.

Mennie's menu will emphasize seasonal cooking, with fresh, locally sourced foods. Owners expect only 10 percent to 20 percent of the restaurant's clientele to be hotel guests.

"We feel the space will become one of the star attraction restaurants for the city," Reidy said.

Mennie, whose Taurus restaurant recently closed in South Buckhead, is also the co-founder and former executive chef at the venerable Canoe.

Few in the Atlanta restaurant scene expected Mennie to go without work for long.

"We've been in hot pursuit of Gary for a little while now," Reidy said. "We know his reputation in the market."

The new restaurant space is the centerpiece of an \$11 million-plus renovation of the historic grand dame of Atlanta hotels. The Georgian Terrace opened in 1911 and played host to the 1939 premiere of "Gone With The Wind."

**GUIDING LIGHT.** Some of the leading minds in hospitality will converge next month at the **Marriott Atlanta Marquis** to talk hotel investment.



### RESTAURANTS & HOSPITALITY

J. Scott Trubey



**Mennie**  
Livingston



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