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## Chef Cathal Armstrong Creates Garden Café Britannia at the National Gallery of Art to Celebrate *Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Art and Design, 1848-1900*

### New Menu Starts February 14



Cornish pasty (traditional English savory beef pie), one of the dishes featured on the buffet created by Chef Cathal Armstrong for Garden Café Britannia at the National Gallery of Art. Photo by Rob Shelley © National Gallery of Art.

Washington, DC—Inspired by *Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Art and Design, 1848–1900*, on view in the West Building from February 17 to May 19, 2013, the award-winning chef Cathal Armstrong has transformed the menu of the Gallery's Garden Café with signature British dishes. Armstrong is chef and owner of Restaurant Eve in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia, as well as Eamonn's A Dublin Chipper, PX, The Majestic, Virtue Feed and Grain, Society Fair, and Bar TNT.

The **Garden Café Britannia** menu, available February 14, is presented in partnership with Restaurant Associates and Executive Chef Pierre Cummings at the National Gallery of Art.

**Garden Café Britannia**

The Garden Café Britannia menu was developed by Chef Cathal Armstrong as a modern and seasonal spin on British classic fare. A Dublin native, Armstrong has fond memories of viewing British art on museum trips and watching his mother make trifle. He has brought that special dessert to the Gallery, adding cherries in recognition of Washington's iconic cherry blossoms. And the sausage that he enjoyed as part of his childhood breakfasts may be sampled in the menu's bubble and squeak. Turnips and English breakfast radishes are also be found on the menu, as a nod to both Victorian cuisine and the chef's devotion to seasonal produce.

Chef Armstrong's buffet (\$20.75) offers a variety of traditional dishes with seasonal ingredients, including rustic British bread; an English cheese board (Stilton and farm house cheddar with fig jam); barley and root vegetable salad with fresh herbs and sherry vinegar; English pea salad with pearl onions, mint, and malt vinaigrette; garden salad of field greens, asparagus, red onion, eggs, English breakfast radish, and black pepper red wine vinaigrette; heirloom carrot and white turnip salad with creamy chive vinaigrette; bubble and squeak (braised savoy cabbage, red bliss potatoes, and artisan-crafted English pork sausage); Cornish pasty (traditional English savory beef pie); and cherry sherry trifle for dessert. The bubble and squeak, and Cornish pasty entrées are also available à la carte (\$14.00), as is the cherry sherry trifle (\$8.00). Recipe cards for selected dishes are offered to guests free of charge.

White, red, and sparkling wines from vineyards in New Zealand, Australia, and France complement the menu. Also offered are a selection of English beers and ciders (Newcastle Brown Ale, London Pride, Morland "Old Speckled Hen," Morland "Old Crafty Hen," Dry Blackthorn Cider) and with specialty cocktails, including snakebite (a "shandy" made with equal parts lager and cider) and kir royal (champagne with a dash of crème de cassis). The non-alcoholic beverages feature Fentimans in a variety of flavors, as well as juice, soda, bottled water, coffee, espresso, and tea.

**Garden Café Britannia** is open Monday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4:00 p.m. A menu of light fare, desserts, and beverages is offered from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays to accommodate visitors who attend the free Sunday evening concerts in the West Garden Court. One of the most distinctive dining spots in the nation's capital, the Garden Café features a delightful 19th-century French

marble sculpture after Jacopo Sansovino, *Bacchus and a Faun*, and a fountain with Herbert Adams' bronze *Girl with Water Lilies* (model 1928).

The Garden Café is located in the West Building near the entrance at 6th Street and Constitution Avenue NW. To make reservations for groups of eight or more, please contact the café manager at (202) 712-7454. For more information about the Gallery and its restaurants, visit [www.nga.gov/dining](http://www.nga.gov/dining).

***Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Art and Design, 1848–1900***

National Gallery of Art, West Building

February 17–May 19, 2013

The first major survey of the art of the Pre-Raphaelites to be shown in the United States features some 130 paintings, sculptures, works on paper, and decorative art objects.

The young members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, formed in 1848, shook the art world of mid-19th-century Britain by rejecting traditional approaches to painting.

Combining scientific precision, an innovative approach to subject matter, and brilliant, clear colors, Pre-Raphaelitism was Britain's first avant-garde art movement.

The exhibition was organized by Tate Britain in collaboration with the National Gallery of Art, Washington. The exhibition is made possible through the generous support of Sally Engelhard Pingree and The Charles Engelhard Foundation. The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

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## General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets along Constitution Avenue NW and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. With the exception of the atrium and library, the galleries in the East Building will be closing gradually beginning in July 2013 and will remain closed for approximately three years for Master Facilities Plan and renovations. For specific updates on gallery closings, visit [www.nga.gov/renovation](http://www.nga.gov/renovation) (<http://www.nga.gov/renovation>) .

For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's website at [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov). Follow the Gallery on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt](http://www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt) and on Twitter at [twitter.com/ngadc](http://twitter.com/ngadc).

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 by 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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