

THE ARCHITECTS NEWSPAPER

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RESTAURANT ROW

BE IT LOW-BUDGET NOODLE SHOP OR HIGH-GLOSS DINING DESTINATION, RESTAURANTS ARE A CLASSIC PROVING GROUND FOR ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIMENT AND WHIMSY, DRAMA AND DESIRE. THE LATEST CROP OF CHOW HOUSES FINDS THIS TRADITION IN FULL FLAVOR—FROM RUSTIC-CHIC TO SUMPTUOUS QUARTZ SLABS, ANYTHING GOES SO LONG AS ALL FIVE SENSES ARE FIRING. IN THAT SPIRIT, HERE ARE NEW RESTAURANTS FROM ACROSS THE NATION AND BEYOND, REVEALING THAT WHIP-SMART DESIGN IS STILL EVERY MATCH FOR THE FIERCEST CULINARY CHOPS. DIG IN.

THE SMITH NEW YORK ZEFFDESIGN

Putting a slicker face on the urban rustic trend that has ruled the city's hipster dining scene, this East Village bistro summons the vibe of a New York social club: Behold a 40-foot zinc bar, custom ceiling lights fitted with antique glass lampshades, old subway tile walls, and classic Thonet-style dining chairs. The main room features photographs of Victorian nudes, while the party-room walls show images from vintage magazines and books that contain the name Smith.

