

# Under T.O.'S Tuscan Sun

by Ron Johnson



Florentia Trattoria was inspired by co-owner Marco Sassone's mural of the same name

MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD has been gifted an authentic Italian ristorante, Florentia, courtesy of chef Bruno Soleri and Italian artist Marco Sassone.

Soleri moved to Toronto from Milan, Italy, a year ago, after visiting a friend in the city. He has worked at Canoe since his arrival, then decided to partner up with Marco Sassone, an old friend who had also moved to town from San Francisco.

"We've known each other for 14 years and always thought maybe we would do something together," says Soleri. "The occasion presented itself, and we decided to take the opportunity to develop something nice and interesting."

The new 32-seat restaurant will feature contemporary Italian cuisine, much from Soleri's own Tuscan region.

The menu features homemade bread, pasta and desserts and roasted meats and fish.

Sassone's mural, entitled *Florentia*, a work that inspired the restaurant name, is permanently installed on site.

Florentia is located at  
579 Mount Pleasant Rd., 416-545-1220.