

Time Out

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BEST OF SHANGHAI AWARDS

2014

Find out who claimed the top prizes
in our celebration of the city

**John
Woo**

Swapping action
for romance

**Christmas,
covered**

Markets, parties,
gifts and more

**Naomi
Klein**

'Capitalism is a
battered brand'

BEST FOOD PERSONALITY



Willy Trullas Moreno

A slightly predictable selection perhaps, but it's a testament to the personal brand that ebullient Spanish chef Willy Trullas Moreno has built for himself in the city that his name is known by so many, regardless of how often they frequent the outlets under his food and drink empire. Sometimes, the obvious choices are obvious for a reason and when it comes to food personalities, there are few who are as memorable or as entertaining as the man who insists on making

Shanghai dining 'sexy' (maybe his favourite adjective by quite some distance). Regardless of how much time he's spending in the kitchen these days, his finger prints are still all over each of the El Willy group's dining outlets – from his signature Bund-side restaurant to ElEfante, Bikini and, newly opened this year, Tomatito – not to mention bars El Ocho and El Coctel. These are some of the best food and drink destinations in town, a measure of the impact that 'El' Willy Moreno has made.

Readers' Choice Paul Pairet

Your choice for top food personality is another name synonymous with top quality dining in Shanghai, Paul Pairet. The French chef behind Huangpu-side stalwart Mr & Mrs Bund, which has served



up fabulous modern cuisine since 2009, and the stunning, immersive dining experience at Ultraviolet, Pairet beat a strong field of the city's most renowned culinary stars to take top prize in our online vote.

BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT



Lotus Eatery

Sure, there are fancier Chinese dining operations in town, but Lotus Eatery is a restaurant for the people, and that's why we love it. With a menu stuffed full of classic Yunnanese comfort food dishes (including some great vegetarian options such

as the Grandma's mashed potato, fried goat's cheese and mint leaf salad), it's a laidback, friendly and unpretentious outlet that's perfect for a proper Chinese feast with friends. Better yet, it won't destroy your bank balance.

Readers' Choice Lost Heaven

With its low lighting and minority-inspired designs, Lost Heaven set the mould for Shanghai-based Yunnanese restaurants and its two branches never fail to deliver a classy dining experience.

BEST ASIAN RESTAURANT



Sushi Oyama

Dining out doesn't get much more intimate than Sushi Oyama's 14 seats. Perched on the top floor of the Donghu Lu villa which also houses ElEfante, this exquisite *omakase* (chef's choice) sushi restaurant from the enthusiastic and exacting

Hiroshima-born Chef Oyama, serves a procession of dishes that are delivered with beautiful presentation and precisely balanced flavours. It's an exceptional operation and a Shanghai dining experience not to be missed.

Readers' Choice Cyclo

Also shortlisted in our Best New Restaurant category, this father and son Vietnamese joint stands out from the crowd of pho outlets in this city thanks to their simple, authentic cuisine.

BEST INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT



SCOTT WISHELM, LUMINEX STUDDO

Ultraviolet

With set menus starting from 3,000RMB, we realise that Ultraviolet is something of an elitist restaurant. Yet Paul Pairet's multi-sensory dining experience is an incredible achievement. And the key thing is that even if you strip away

all the bells and whistles (or rather the custom-made 360 degree visuals and soundtracks that accompany each course), the food served at UV truly is outstanding. Save, scrape, beg – do what you need to get a booking here, it really is worth it.

Readers' Choice The Commune Social

One of our favourite restaurants in town, The Commune Social's mix of stylish surrounds and downright delicious food and drinks at each of its three counters make it a justifiably popular spot.

BEST CHEAP EAT



Dongbei Four Seasons Dumpling King

This chain of northeastern restaurants has earned its reputation as cheap eat royalty through a range of delicious, hearty dishes that enable you to enjoy a huge meal with

friends for around 60RMB a head. Some branches are a little rough and ready in places, but the quality of food served at the tables never wavers. A truly great value institution.

Readers' Choice Brothers Kebab

This small chain pledges to stop Shanghai's kebab cravings with their pitas, shawarmas and doner wraps, and judging by the way you voted, it seems to have done just that.

BEST NEW RESTAURANT



Pirata

A glance at the competition in this category shows that it's been another strong year for new restaurant openings in Shanghai. But amid all the hype, flashy marketing and the general whirlwind that is the expansion of the city's dining scene, Pirata stands out to us for its low-key, consistently high-quality approach. Pirata's understated, charming atmosphere couples with a focus on good ingredients and flavourful, shareable dishes to keep us coming back time and

again. It all stems from Ling Huang, the former E!E!fante head chef behind this smart little Changle Lu spot. At the beginning of 2013, *Time Out* spoke to Huang and asked what her plans were for the future. 'I've always wanted to own my own place, but maybe when I'm old,' she said. 'I want to have a very small restaurant and do late night dinners.' At 35, Huang is far from old, but she's already realised her dream with this fantastic tapas kitchen and bar, an excellent addition to the city.

Readers' Choice CHI-Q

Marja Vongerichten's addition to the Three on the Bund culinary hub that houses husband Jean-Georges' Shanghai outpost is a bold undertaking. For many, Korean barbecue is synonymous with



a cheap feast, but in CHI-Q, Vongerichten has attempted to take the concept considerably up market. It's clearly struck a chord in the city however, with the stylish newcomer scooping the Readers' Choice Award.