



Left, top to bottom: Tocqueville's entrance and bar. Above, left to right: Alexandra Champalimaud and Bill Rooney.

Challenge: In 2000, Tocqueville, a French-American restaurant devoted to seasonal cooking, opened in the shadow of New York City's Union Square, taking advantage of the farmer's market the owners were so dependent upon. The tiny space, cramped but attractively intimate, lured in a loyal crowd, and soon the husband-and-wife team behind it, Marco Moreira and Jo-Ann Makovitzky, decided it was time for a larger space. So, they sought out New York City-based designer (and Greater New York member) Alexandra Champalimaud and her namesake firm to help them translate their culinary vision and refined aesthetic to the new space, conveniently located at the other end of the street.

Solution: For the new space, the designers employed soaring 16-foot ceilings, an Italian limestone floor in the foyer, and a fabric-paneled mezzanine with a private dining room. But as Champalimaud and colleague Bill Rooney, principal architect for the project, explain, the new location didn't come without its challenges: a narrow entry, the street presence and depth, and the length of the existing space.

Throughout the year the firm spent working on Tocqueville, the team came up with creative and efficient solutions. "The entry remained tall, giving presence to the street, and a hint of more to come," says Champalimaud. Adds Rooney: "A sequence of lower spaces and the bar created anticipation, leading into a grand two-story dining room. We also added a Juliet balcony for private dining."

To achieve an overall look of elegance and serenity, the designers implemented soothing and subtle materials like a three-tiered nickel chandelier, wood floors, and hand-woven wool carpeting. Walls are hand-glazed, banquettes are pale yellow, smoked mirrors add depth, and the wenge wood bar features sleek onyx. "The dining experience is intimate and calm," Rooney notes. As Champalimaud adds, "the setting allows the discerning guest to focus attention on the meal and those at the table with them." >

Re-Made in Manhattan

Alexandra Champalimaud moves a New York City staple down the block

By Alia Akkam Photography by Kevin Lein



design 101 restaurant renovation



Tocqueville • New York City

Owner Marco Moreira & Jo-Ann Makovitzky, Marco Polo Caterers

Architecture and Interior Design Firm Alexandra Champalimaud & Associates, New York City

Project Team Alexandra Champalimaud, William Rooney Sergio Siffuentes, Alan Mainer, Rene Obando, and Chatu Ranasinghe

Consultants Catalyst Development Group (project coordinator); Worldwide Interiors Corp. (general contractor); Gilsanz Murray Steficek, LLP (structural engineer); Samtel Pascoe Jacobs (kitchen consultant); and Perfect Aire (MEP)

Lighting Design Alexandra Champalimaud & Associates and Selles Lighting Design

Carpet Custom by Alexandra Champalimaud & Associates; manufactured by Tai Ping Carpets

Wallcovering ArtSpace

Seating/Casegoods Custom by Alexandra Champalimaud & Associates; manufactured by Beckenstein Fabrics & Interiors

Fabrics Pollack

Wall Sconces/Chandelier Custom by Alexandra Champalimaud & Associates

Paint Benjamin Moore Paints

Plumbing Fixtures & Accessories Kohler, Ginger, and American Standard ■

Left: Tocqueville's main dining room.

A large advertisement for Signature Hospitality Carpets. The background is a dark blue/black color with several large, green lily pads and a single pink lotus flower in bloom. The text "Signature" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, "IT'S PART OF EVERYTHING WE DO." is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for Signature Hospitality Carpets, which consists of a stylized green leaf icon above the text "Signature Hospitality Carpets". Below the logo, the address "2222 S Hamilton St. • Dalton, GA 30721" and phone number "800 809 7086 • SIGNATURECARPETS.COM" are listed. In the bottom left corner, there are logos for "EnviroCEL" and "Antron". Below the EnviroCEL logo, it says "ECO-FRIENDLY CARPET BACKING". Below the Antron logo, it says "Antron is a registered trademark of INVISTA." and "EnviroCel is a trademark of Universal Textile Technologies."

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