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FEBRUARY 2008

RECIPES FOR ROMANCE

Valentine's Day Dream Dates
from the City's Top Chefs



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Recipes for **ROMANCE**

Local chefs deliver the dish on the ultimate Seattle Valentine's Day. BY ANGELA GARBES

It's almost impossible to think of Valentine's Day without thinking of going out for a romantic dinner. Food and romance go hand-in-hand—both nourish people and bring them closer together through sensual experience. So what do the chefs who make the food that lovers love to eat do for romance? These three couples, all of whom own and operate successful restaurants in the Seattle area, share what it's like to live and work with your true love everyday. They've also generously passed on their own "recipes for romance" to help you plan the perfect Valentine's Day date.



LISA DUPAR & JONATHAN ZIMMER
POMEGRANATE BISTRO & LISA
DUPAR CATERING

18005 NE 65th St, Redmond,
425-881-3250

When Lisa Dupar hired Jonathan Zimmer to assist her with her catering business, Zimmer told her that he could only help her out for a little while. He told her, straight up: "Catering's not my thing." That was in 1993. Fourteen years later, Dupar and Zimmer run the catering company, as well as a restaurant. They've also been married for six years. "It works well," says Dupar, "he's all about the big picture, and I'm much more detail-oriented."

A smart business woman, Dupar was initially hesitant to start a romance with someone she worked with. "Once,

after we snuck a kiss in the walk-in refrigerator, I said, 'Oh my god, I could be sued for this.'" And because both have children from previous marriages, and they didn't want to confuse them, they decided to take it slow. Very slow.

"Finally," laughs Dupar, "after almost ten years of dating, our kids sat us down and said, 'We need to talk. What's the deal with you two?'" The two were married soon after. Today business—and love—are still thriving.

LISA AND JONATHAN'S
"GREAT DATES"

Seattle Opera (1020 John Street, 389-7676)

Both Lisa and Jonathan were raised by musicians, so they have a very strong connection to the opera. When Jonathan proposed, he did so by inviting the tenor from the Seattle Opera to sing an aria from Lisa's favorite opera in their home. "There I was in my dining room with fam-

ily and friends," recalls Lisa, "and the ceiling and glasses are shaking with the sound of my favorite aria!"

Uptown Espresso on Queen Anne (525 Queen Anne Ave N, 285-3757)

Because they live on the Eastside, a trip to Seattle's Uptown Espresso means "we have a whole day off—real time to get away and spend together."

Hot Pots in the International District

"When we have time, Jonathan and I like to wander around the International District," says Lisa, "we usually end up at a little hole in the wall and share a hot pot." One of their favorite spots is Seven Stars Pepper (1207 S Jackson St, Suite 211, 568-6446).