



Jonathan Boncek
Heirloom beet salad

Drawing Room

19 Vendue Range
Charleston, South Carolina 29401
DOWNTOWN

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The name alone hints at the dual nature of this elegant eatery — “drawing room” in the sense of a place where one entertains, and also a place where art is created. In other words, the merger of two ideals. New owners Jon and Lisa Weitz aimed high with their all-out renovation of The Vendue Hotel, giving it a contemporary yet elegant edge. With rotating curated exhibits, The Drawing Room’s dishes are as stunning as the provocative artwork gracing the walls. Sophisticated yet not at all stuffy, this place buzzes under the watchful eye of manager and master sommelier Pietro Giardini, who mentors his staff well to guide you towards the perfect glass of wine to complement your foie gras custard, rabbit crêpes, or venison with savory bread pudding. Be sure to save room for the silky smooth chocolate pâté and an after-dinner liqueur as you consider purchasing one of the paintings, drawings, or sculptures. Then head to the rooftop bar for a peek at the harbor, the church steeples piercing the skyline, and the stars above. —Allston McCrady [Dish \(Summer 2015\)](#)