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ACCOLADES

## MIDWEST AIRLINES

**MINNEAPOLIS: THE SMALL MIDWESTERN CITY IS BIG ON POSSIBILITIES,** *Greg Breining*

**IF YOU GO** If you wander down the Nicollet Mall to the corner of 11th Avenue, pop into Masa for a contemporary Mexican lunch or

dinner. **IT'S SOPHISTICATED AND AIRY,** with bright contemporary furnishings and large windows.



### COCKTAIL STOPS AT NEW HOT SPOTS

Make a run over to Masa for its sparkling bar and restaurant with a magnificent street-level view of Nicollet Mall. **MASA'S MENU IS BOTH A CREATIVE SALUTE AND A HOMAGE TO TRADITIONAL MEXICAN CUISINE.** Olé! Located at the corner of 11th Street on Nicollet Mall in the new Target Tower, the grand floor-to-ceiling windows in both the street side bar and corner dining room make great people watching at cocktails time—the windows face WCCO TV's News window, the Peavey Plaza corner at Orchestra Hall and neighboring Vincent: A Restaurant across the street.

**HATS OFF TO RICHARD AND LARRY D'AMICO WHOSE PASSION FOR FOODS OF MANY CULTURES HAS**

### EXTENDED BEYOND THEIR ITALIAN ROOTS.

The D'Amico team researched for more than a year, testing and tasting with the team's Executive Chef Jay Sparks and Masa Chef Saul Chavez (previously a sous chef at Campiello) to create their concept of "cosmopolitan food with a regional authenticity." ...A few favorites I've found so far include queso fritos—small squares of fried panela cheese topped with a dab of raw green tomatillo salsa. ...Also love their delicate seafood treatments from sea bass to shrimp and sauces. Save room for a Martini in the bar or a late-night snack with those irresistible churros, served warm with a demitasse cup filled with thick hot chocolate for dipping. I can almost skip the hot, sugared mini donuts and champagne served at Lurcat for these fritters. Almost.



## FOOD&WINE

**MINNEAPOLIS MODERN,** *Rick Nelson*

There's more to Minnesota than extreme weather conditions and Prairie Home Companion. Suddenly, Minneapolis is the most exciting architectural hub in America, with brand-new buildings by the likes of Jean Nouvel and Cesar Pelli—and world-class restaurants to to with them.

### RESTAURANT HOT LIST

Masa: Chef Saul Chavez uses the flavors of his native Mexico as inspiration for such dishes as lime-marinated snapper on black rice with poblanos. The elegant dining room lacks a single south-of-the-border design cliché.

