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### The power couple behind one of the most unique food and event spaces in the country.

Since it first opened its doors in 1876, people brought their deepest hopes and prayers to St. Vibiana Cathedral in Downtown LA — generations got married there, baptized there, ordained there, and attended school there. Now, 140 years later, people from all over the world bring their appetites there, to what is now one of the most unique culinary and special event venues in the country. The cathedral has been converted into a giant state-of-the-art special events space called **Vibiana**, and the rectory, where the priests lived, is now **Redbird**, a restaurant serving modern American cuisine with an eclectic menu created by Chef Neal Fraser.

"We're not trying to be the latest greatest flavor of the day, we're trying to be a restaurant that will be here for a very long time," Fraser says.

Both the restaurant and event space are managed by Fraser's wife and business partner, Amy Knoll Fraser.

"Typically restaurants don't have a giant event space attached to them, and the operators aren't operating both simultaneously. So it gets a little tricky, but it's a lot of fun," Knoll Fraser says.

The cathedral was almost demolished after being damaged in the 1994 Northridge earthquake, and a long and drawn out battle to save and rehabilitate the building ensued. But Knoll Fraser fell instantly in love with the architecture when she saw it.

"I had no idea this existed... it seemed like such a special opportunity. Such a rare opportunity that I didn't want to lose it," Knoll Fraser says.

After an extensive restoration, the Frasers opened Redbird in 2015, in the midst of a burgeoning food scene in downtown Los Angeles. At the same time, they operate Vibiana, which hosts more than 100 events a year, mostly weddings, as well as corporate and social events.



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