

Neal Fraser

Neal Fraser, chef and owner of multiple restaurant concepts in Los Angeles, started his career in the kitchen at age 20. He touts an impressive resume that includes a degree from the Culinary Institute of America and an honor roll of kitchen credits such as Wolfgang Puck's Eureka and Spago, Checkers Hotel under Thomas Keller, Joachim Splichal's Pinot Bistro, Hans Rockenwagner's Rox, and the highly revered Boxer. Currently, he and his business partner/wife Amy Knoll Fraser own and operate critically acclaimed Redbird; high-volume special events and performing arts venue Vibiana; beloved neighborhood bistro BLD; ice cream, doughnut and coffee shop ICDC; fast-casual Fritzi Dog and full-service sister concept Fritzi at Arts District Brewing Company.

Located in downtown Los Angeles, Redbird is Fraser's flagship where he showcases his signature sensibility of refined yet approachable modern American cuisine, influenced by the city's multitude of cultures. Carved into one of the city's most historic architectural gems, inside the former rectory building of Vibiana (the cathedral-turned-event-venue), Redbird is singular, timeless and "blissfully grown-up." The restaurant has received many accolades including a coveted spot on Los Angeles Times' Gold List by Jonathan Gold and Los Angeles Magazine's Best New Restaurants list.

Prior to the success of Redbird and Vibiana, Fraser and Knoll Fraser opened two of Los Angeles' most loved restaurants – critical darling Grace (which closed in 2010) and ever-popular breakfast, lunch and dinner bistro, BLD. A second location for BLD currently operates inside the Los Angeles International Airport. In 2015, ICDC, an ice cream/doughnut/coffee shop opened next door to BLD; the shop is spearheaded by Knoll Fraser and longtime pastry chef Mariah Swan.

Fraser's expansive repertoire includes fast-casual concept Fritzi Dog, a healthier and haute hot dog stand inside the Farmer's Market at The Grove. Most recently, he opened Fritzi inside the Arts District Brewing Company, a standalone restaurant, with a window that additionally services the brewery. Fritzi builds upon the Fritzi Dog menu adding items such as a roasted chicken sandwich and a couple different burger options.

Outside of the restaurants, Fraser has logged some hours on the small screen, most notably on Bravo TV's 'Top Chef Masters,' Fox's 'Hell's Kitchen,' and Food Network's 'Iron Chef America,' on which he won his battle against chef Cat Cora. He also won his battles on Esquire TV's 'Knife Fight,' and Food Network's 'Beat Bobby Flay.' Over the years, both Fraser and Knoll Fraser have been active members in the community, donating time and talents to a variety of charities. Five years ago, they co-founded Beefsteak, an annual event benefitting the Los Angeles Food Bank with Simpson's creator Matt Selman, comedian Eric Wareheim and comedy producer Cort Cass.