

THE FOODSERVICE MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 15, 1997

RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

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Hearth



A CAHNS PUBLICATION

Yoshi's Japanese Restaurant and Jazz House

Oakland, Calif.

Designer: Eric Engstrom, Kasey Hudson, Engstrom Design Group, San Rafael, Calif.

Date opened: May 1997

Operation: Casual Japanese

Seats: 259

Average check: \$30 (liquor included)

Photographer: Mark Citret, Daly City, Calif.

Appropriately, the lively jazz club fills the west end of Yoshi's Japanese Restaurant and Jazz House, while the serene dining rooms and traditional teahouse make up the east wing. This intentional positioning reflects designer Eric Engstrom's goal to meld West and East: "We interpreted traditional concepts and materials in contemporary ways." Natural connections include a 130-foot soffit that curves through the space "like a wave of fog," and terra-cotta stained concrete floors that run "like a dry creek bed" from the teahouse to the jazz club. Above are custom light fixtures designed to resemble clouds, stars and moons. The design successfully incorporates layers of space, commented Visilios, and is at once exciting and ordered. So Zen. ▶ 66

Designed by Morimoto Architects



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