

*The romantic notion of time-traveling back to the flapper-era City of Light and sipping a beer or two with Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald was recently celebrated in the Woody Allen film *Midnight in Paris*. A bold new restaurant in downtown Wilmington will offer food and beer lovers a unique opportunity to belly up with Ernest and Scott once again.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ernest & Scott Taproom** – set to open December 2011

Wilmington, DE, December 2011



Restaurateur Scott Morrison (creator of Nectar Restaurant, PA , Chelsea Tavern, Wilmington and others) will launch **Ernest & Scott Taproom**, a restaurant that will be among the first beer-centric retailers in America to adopt The Brewers Association's definition of a craft brewery (<http://www.craftbeer.com/pages/beerology/small-independent-traditional>) to determine which beers can make it onto their beer list.

"The depth and breadth of offerings and phenomenal growth of *American Craft Beer* propelled me to consider doing a restaurant that puts these beers at the forefront, without any mass market beers diluting the integrity of the beer list", states Morrison. He then brought in wunderkind Sam Calagione of Dogfish Head to advise and direct on craft beer brewing, aging, serving, food pairing and consumption.

The result will be **Ernest & Scott Taproom**, a collaboration of the craftiest Delaware and national brew offerings, featuring an amazing selection of cask-conditioned and bottle-conditioned beer. For those scratching their heads, cask and bottle-conditioned beers have yeast added directly to the cask or bottle and thus continue to mature and ferment. The result is literally live beer, one that continues to grow and change as it ferments and ages. The beer menu will include craft mainstays like Sierra Nevada Pale Ale and Samuel Adams Lager as well as more exotic brews like Dogfish Head's cask-conditioned 75 minute IPA and Yards Tavern Spruce Ale. Calagione helped to engage the craft beer community at large by reaching out to Delaware native brewers and other east coast brewery owners to invite their participation in the beer program at *Ernest & Scott*. Ernest & Scott will also serve exclusively American Craft Wines and Distilled Spirits.

Complementing these live beers will be a *modern beer garden menu*, specifically designed to accompany said brews. Morrison reached out to rising star Chef Kevin Torpey, most recently at Harvest in Glen Mills, PA. The charge was to create a menu with simplicity and familiarity, which is beer friendly and approachable. From the simplest warm hummus with organic butter and house flatbread (\$6) to cold water lobster rolls (\$9) to hot roast beef beer sandwiches(\$4) all the way to pristine seafood and perfectly marbled steaks and chops, the menu at Ernest & Scott Taproom will have something for every taste.

The team has purchased the historical *awe-inspiring space* at 902 North Market St. to house this exciting tribute to local Delaware and American craftsmanship. Formerly the Delaware Trust Bank, the space is a tribute to more opulent times and retains the original plaster ceiling, balconies and iconic plaster details, but will emphasize value, community, intimacy and comfort. Additional interior elements pay homage to grand train stations past, with 28-foot ceilings framed by arched architectural trusses and walls accented with exposed brick columns and warm, inviting colors. There's even an *industrial cask sculpture* designed by Calagione that depicts the production process of bringing naturally-carbonated ales to life.

The name *Ernest & Scott* is inspired by the fascinating relationship between writers and bon vivants Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald, part of which actually took place here in Wilmington. The contrast between Hemingway- the macho, gritty and somewhat disheveled character and Fitzgerald- the stylish refined aristocrat, parallel the available offerings at Ernest & Scott. The concept aims to capture the spirit of both writers. Whether you seek a local watering hole to saddle up to the bar for a hearty sandwich and a beer, or an elegant location for a magnificent dining event, guests at Ernest & Scott will find a warm, friendly environment where all are welcome.