

Bonjour “Moulin Rouge!” Theatergoers,

Our magnifique Moulin Rouge experience is only 1-1/2 months away! Thank you again for the outpouring of interest for this theater event.  *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* has been getting rave reviews and it is proving to be a difficult ticket to acquire.

To set the mood for our Moulin Rouge experience, there will be an optional prix fixe lunch at Chez Josephine. The restaurant was opened in 1986 by Josephine Baker’s adopted son, Jean Claude Baker. Chez Josephine is a bubbly return to the joie-de-vivre of Paris of the 1930s – le Jazz Hot with soul – with is blue-tin ceiling, red velvet walls, and cavalcade of chandeliers lighting up vintage portraits of Ms. Baker. And the Moulin Rouge connection you might ask … Josephine Baker performed at Moulin Rouge in Paris and this restaurant celebrates that time in her life. If you want to learn more, check out these website links[: About Chez Josephine](http://www.chezjosephine.com/gazette-ndash-30-years.html), [About Josephine Baker](http://www.chezjosephine.com/josephine-baker.html), and [Photos of Josephine Baker at the Moulin Rouge](https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=josephine+baker+at+moulin+rouge&qpvt=josephine+baker+at+moulin+rouge&FORM=IQFRML).

**In preparation for our Broadway outing, there are a some details that I want to share with you and will need your feedback. Please read all the way to the bottom of this email.**

Details

* **Transportation:** There will be no organized group transportation to New York City for the show.
  + **Train:** If you are having lunch with the group, I recommend taking the 8:53 a.m. train from New Canaan (I will be taking that train and we will meet fellow travelers at the station at 8:40) or the 8:54 a.m. train from Darien (Sue Hull will be taking that train and will meet fellow travelers at the station at 8:40) to allow for delays and allow enough time to get to the restaurant (at 414 West 42nd Street). Upon arriving in NYC, there will be time to get a coffee, do a little shopping at the Grand Central Holiday Fair, etc. For those who want to spend the time together before going to the restaurant, they should meet at the Grand Central clock after disembarking the train and plan on heading to the restaurant about 11:10.
  + **Driving:** If you are driving and joining us for lunch, please plan to be at the restaurant (at 414 West 42nd Street) no later than 11:30 a.m.
  + **Carpooling to train or NYC:** In case any of you want to carpool to the train or NYC, I will be sending out closer to our theater date a list of who will be attending.
* **Lunch:** The lunch at Chez Josephine will start at 11:30. They are prepared to have us out of the with time to “tend to your personal comforts*” (if we do not all go to the restaurant’s bathroom at the last minute)* and walk the approximately 7 minutes to the theater. The price for lunch is $39 (which includes the food, tax, and gratuity); there will be a cash bar. **Our Moulin Rouge special prix fixe menu** includes:
  + Choice of appetizer:
    - **Soupe du jour** (vegetarian)
    - **Roasted beets, endive, baby arugula**, candied walnuts, & balsamic vinaigrette
    - **Country paté** with cornichons, celery remoulade, and on the side Dijon mustard
  + Choice of entrée:
    - **Mussels marinières** (tomato, herbs, & garlic) with pommes frites
    - **Wild mushroom ravioli** with beurre blanc sauce
    - **Chicken paillard** with mushrooms, spinach, & roasted potato
  + Choice of dessert (with coffee or tea):
    - **Apple tart tatin** with crème fraiche
    - **Profiterole** (puff pastry, ice cream, & chocolate sauce)
* **Show Time:** The show starts at 2:00, but there is a “pre-show” starting at approximately 1:30 in the theater. The “pre-show” is optional, but I am planning to have those of us having lunch together at the theater by 1:30 in case you want to see it and have time to use the bathroom if necessary. If you prefer, you can hang out at the restaurant longer on your own and make you way to the theater closer to 2:00. The walking time to the theater is about 7 minutes.
* **Tickets:** Tickets are being assigned in the order that your reservations were made. I will be handing out the theater tickets at the restaurant. For those foregoing lunch at Chez Josephine, you can make arrangements with me to pick up your tickets November 18th – 20th and you can show up whenever you like.
* **Waitlist:** We have a waitlist for tickets, so if you will not be able to make it to the show, please let me know ASAP and I will start moving through the waitlist to fill your ticket (and get you a refund). Please do NOT make separate arrangements to give your ticket to someone unless I have filled the waitlist first.

Feedback Needed ASAP

* **Cell Phone:** Send me your cell number in case there are any issues.
* **Lunch & Payment:** Let me know if you will joining us for lunch and what your food choices will be (see menu above). If you are joining us for lunch, please send me a check for $39 so I do not need to collect money at the restaurant. Send the check to: Pamela Crum, 72 Norholt Drive, New Canaan. If you would rather send the money via Zelle, please contact me as to where to send it.
* **Get Tickets if No Lunch:** If you are not joining us for lunch, please contact me to arrange for you to pick up your ticket November 18th - 20th.

I look forward to seeing all of you on November 21st for our Moulin Rouge experience!!

Merci Beaucoup et À Bientôt,

Pamela