

SALMON ROYALE AT CHRISTIE'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS

When trying to decide on the topic of this article I really struggled on which dish and restaurant to write about. I thought about all the restaurants that are opening up in the Heights, Midtown and Washington area, there were so many choices to choose from now. And it got me thinking that you can't write about the present unless you visit the past.

So I chose one of my old favorites in Christie's Seafood and Steaks. It's been around since 1917, "Established before you were born!" General Manager, Maria Christie, blurts out. The patriarch of this family-owned restaurant, is [CONT. NEXT PAGE] Jim

by YO-J / photos by JOHN TRAN



Christie, who took his last name from the original restaurant owner.

Jim, started at Christie's at the age of 28 and now is 77 years young. The original location in Galveston was famous for the fish sandwich which is still served today. They they moved to the Medical Center in the 1930's and finally to it's present location on Westheimer and Greenridge in 1979. All the while a Christie family member has been steering the boat for almost 100 years.

On this day, I tried the Salmon Royale for the first time. Fresh salmon topped with bisque-type sauce with crawfish tails, shrimp, bell peppers and mushrooms over dirty rice. After the first bite, I sounded like an after-dark Cinemax movie and yelled, "Oh my god!"...twice. Picture it this way, if Mike Tyson had this sauce on his boxing glove, I would want him to hit me 46 times in the mouth. The other must-eat is the Fried Shrimp platter, the original recipe came with the tails still on, which other restaurants have since copied, and it comes with their famous remoulade sauce which dates back to 1917.

I asked owner Jim Christie, what makes the food at the restaurant taste so good? In his thick Greek accent he replies, "Yuu-Jay, I only buy the freshest seafood from the Gulf." Roula (Christie), his daughter, plays radio in the mornings on 104.1 KRBE. You may know him as Papa Love, who gives advice about relationships. One morning, a female listener called and asked, "Why does my husband cheat on me? He's cheated seven times and I don't know what to do." Again, in his Greek accent he replied with, "Your husband is like a glass, it's holds the water, but it's not doing the right job because it has a leak." Good family, good jokes and great food.

Have a recommendation for me?
Tweet me: @radioyoj (Twitter)



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