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BIG NIGHT IN

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Los Angeles



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September 17, 2013

Rao's and Shine

Harlem's Legendary Italian, Hollywood-Style



VITALS

Rao's
 1006 Seward St
 Hollywood, CA 90038
 323-962-7267
[official website](#)

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Your next dinner party: it's going to be great. How it can be greater: by [entering for a chance to win \\$3,500](#) from west elm, FOOD & WINE® and us (entering alone nets you a 10% west elm discount), all yours to spend on catering, dinnerware, barware and anything you deem necessary. Or unnecessary.*

Mobsters. Cops. Meatballs.

Pitches concerning movies about mobsters, cops and meatballs.

Your week just got a lot more of... some of these things.

Step behind the historic red doors of Rao's, the Hollywood incarnation of Harlem's notorious 117-year-old Italian joint, finally opening tonight.

You've probably heard about the original—an old-school joint with only 10 tables, always booked with standing reservations. And filled with guys you wouldn't want to steal a table from. That was even before the *Times* gave it a '77 rave. Basically, nobody can ever get inside.

[So welcome inside.](#) There's more room over here in Hollywood (and even a patio), but the vibe is familiar, with white linens, lots of mahogany and signed photos all over the walls. Settle into the wooden booth under the wall-mounted menu, the one LeRoy Neiman drew on—that's the best spot to talk spec scripts and keep an eye on the door.

And see [what's coming out of the open kitchen](#)—think legendary lemon chicken and Italian red-sauce classics like penne alla vodka and spaghetti Bolognese with three meats. Try and stay focused on the food, not what's happening at the next table. Especially if they're talking about a *Godfather* reboot starring Shia LaBeouf.

You know it's only a matter of time.

Note: Rao's, opens tonight, 1006 Seward St, 323-962-7267, [see the menu](#) and [the slideshow](#)



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