

For Immediate Release

Chef Richard Sandoval collaborates with Maestro Placido Domingo & Chef Alan Yu to bring his vibrant Latin-Asian cuisine to the nation's capital

Washington, DC – March 30, 2005 – Fresh off his successful launch of Isla Mexican Kitchen & Tequila Bar at Treasure Island (TI) in Las Vegas and his nationally acclaimed hit Zengo in Denver, Colorado – Mexico City born Richard Sandoval starts construction on the second Zengo located at 781 Seventh Street at Gallery Place/Chinatown.

Chef Sandoval will collaborate with Washington National Opera's Placido Domingo, a continuation of their successful partnership at **Pampano** in New York City, named "best new restaurant in America" in 2003 by *Esquire Magazine*. Chef/Restaurateur Sandoval, owner of 6 restaurants, will merge the Latin foods of his upbringing, with Shanghai born Chef Alan Yu's Asian ingredients and techniques. Chef Yu who has been classically trained under some of the nation's finest chefs including Michel Richard (at **Citronelle – Washington, DC**) and Jean-George Vongerichten (at **66 Restaurant – New York, NY**).

Zengo translates to "give and take" and illustrates the union of two unique chefs – each with their own history, background, and expertise – as well as the communal nature of the dining experience at Zengo. The result is a new Modern Mexican restaurant exposing even the most seasoned diner to the myriad of new flavors.

Rated as one of America's Top Restaurants in the Denver Metro Area & Mountain Resorts by *ZagatSurvey* 2005, Zengo, Denver has received both national and local acclaim for its inventive, creative, hip, and fun atmosphere, cuisine, and beverages.

Zengo DC is slated to open in September 2005, with 195 seats in the 7,800 square foot restaurant; the award winning team of Adamstein & Demetriou will design the interior. It will combine clean lines of Japanese design with South American vivaciousness.

For more information on Chef Sandoval, Placido Domingo, Chef Yu or Zengo DC, please contact Jennifer Danquist at Modern Mexican Restaurants at (303) 825-0662 or jennifer@modernmexican.com
Also visit www.modernmexican.com.

About Gallery Place

Gallery Place is a distinguished new destination for business, shopping, dining, entertainment and living in Downtown Washington. The project includes 220,000 SF of Class A office space, 250,000 SF of prime retail space, 192 luxury residential condominiums, and 700 parking spaces in a secure underground garage. Other retailers in the project include a 14-screen Regal Cinema, Clyde's Restaurant, a flagship Benetton store, City Sports, Washington Sport and Health Clubs and BB&T Bank. The project is near completion of construction.

For more information on Gallery Place, please contact Mary Margaret Hiller at Akridge at (202) 624-8627 or mmhiller@akridge.com. Also visit www.galleryplace.com.