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Life on Mars will create ultimate vinyl with cocktails, beer, and a p

Posted on [Monday, February 25, 2019 - 10:51 am](#) by [jseattle](#)

The **Capitol Hill Block Party**-worthy bar bringing together two first families of Seattle independent music will be called **Life on Mars**, a nod to **David Bowie**, of course. But also to an intergalactic sense of belonging.

“Also just love the notion that we might not be alone out here,” **Leigh Sims** says of the name of the new venue set to open this spring at Pike and Harvard.

Sims and **Steven Severin** represent the **Neumos** side of Seattle rock royalty behind the project. Seattle’s king and queen of independent radio, **Amy** and **John Richards** –John in the Morning of **KEXP** — round out the new royal family. The bar will pull off the ultimate DJ mix: vinyl with cocktails, beer, and a plant-based menu.

“We still love the experience of holding an album, flipping a record, and gathering in a record shop,” the Life on Mars announcement reads. “The bar is a way to mix music and gathering friends that’s not than a live venue or a dj booth — and with drinking.”

John probably designed this part. Life on Mars will have a gigantic record wall with thousands of records. “It’s also a super excuse to get more vinyl,” the announcement reads.



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“We want people to come in and grab a record for a spin during happy hours, and other hours, we’ll be playing good music, really good music.”

[CHS first reported in July](#) on the project set to restore nightlife to the Pike/Pine corner where bars and clubs had long stood until recent mixed-use redevelopment. The project was moving forward under [another name](#) but Sims says the name “evolved over time.”

UPDATE: If the recipe for Life on Mars might feel familiar, it’s true that Capitol Hill already has a vinyl bar. **Revolver** opened on E Olive Way in [2014](#).

Described as “a bar for people who love music and good drinks,” Life on Mars is hoped “to create a relaxed bar with good music, deep comfy booths, a gigantic wall of vinyl, local beers, unfussy cocktails and a plant-based menu.”

Life On Mars will focus on “classic cocktails and a few simplicity-done-well drinks like the Original Line Up with bourbon, grapefruit juice and maple, or Death by Juniper: dry gin and juniper berries, fresh citrus and rosemary. Craft beer and wines will have an emphasis on local brands.”

The food menu will be developed by chef **Joe Ball**, recently of **Flying Apron** and will feature items including “waffle sliders bursting with chicken-fried artichokes, barbecue pulled-jackfruit, or coconut bacon.”



You Are Not Alone
@loserboy



BIG NEWS! I'm opening a bar! It's called Life on Mars and we open on the corner of Pike & Harvard in May. I've partnered with my partner Amy as well as Steven Severin of Neumos fame and Leigh Sims of Seattle fame. Music, Vinyl, Plant-Based Menu. Its been years in the making.

9:38 AM · Feb 25, 2019

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Amy and John Richards are vegan and everything on the Life On Mars menu will be plant-based including a caribbean-style Jerk burger with “smoky, hot Scotch bonnet pepper blend, with piled with Pickapeppa, southern potato salad and slaw,” along with “grilled local vegetables,” and salads “for when you want greens with that glass of whisky.”

Designed by **Mike Skidmore** at **Skidmore Jannette** to evoke the late 70s — “an incomparable era in vinyl and music” — with a blend of “old and new,” Life on Mars will have “cushy deep booths, vinyl records, and turntables, and a wide U-shaped bar, along with “huge windows that connect the bar to the street and can open wide in summer to let the sun in.”

The building from developers **Tyler Carr** and **Kelten Johnson** hosts [a huge mural](#) and the new bar will join a block now [home to the Redhook Brewlab](#) and [Salt and Straw's Capitol Hill outpost](#). Chef **Shota Nakajima** will also bring [his deep-fried skewer joint Taku](#) to the block later this year.

In addition to food and drink, the Life on Mars menu will also include a rotating selection of records for sale and you can expect events like Record Store Day and parties for “good causes and non-profits” to frequently fill the space along with “some special guests pulling records and listening parties.”

Life on Mars is planned to open in “late spring” at 722 E Pike. You can learn more at lifeonmarsseattle.com.

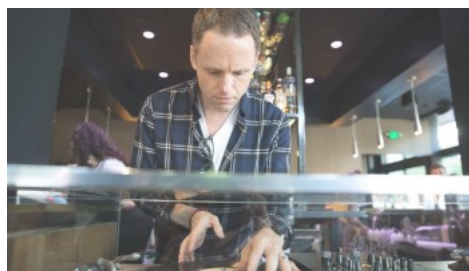
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Life on Mars -- Capitol Hill's most anticipated plant-based DJ vinyl bar of



First look: Life on Mars lands on Capitol Hill



La Dive bar to bring natural wines and frozen wine cocktails to the 'grown-up'

2019 -- plans June opening
Tuesday, May 28, 2019 - 1:08 pm
In "Food & Drink"

Sunday, June 2, 2019 - 8:54 am
In "Food & Drink"

block of Pike/Pine
Tuesday, August 6, 2019 - 7:03 am
In "Food & Drink"

This entry was posted in [Food & Drink](#), [News, etc.](#) and tagged [music](#), [pike pine](#) by [jseattle](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#) [<https://www.capitolhillseattle.com/2019/02/life-on-mars-will-create-ultimate-capitol-hill-dj-mix-vinyl-with-cocktails-beer-and-a-plant-based-menu/>].



About jseattle

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15 COMMENTS



Donna 1 year ago

Do they not know about Revolver?

I love Revolver, and another vinyl bar is excellent, but they talk like this is the first of it's kind here.



jseattle 1 year ago

Reply to [Donna](#)

Author

Thanks for reminder. I meant to include a mention of Revolver. Updating.



Henry Rhapsody 1 year ago

Normally I scoff at all the new "food and beverage" projects starting up around Capitol Hill (I've lived here long enough to know that almost half of them usually fail), but this looks legit. Looking forward to it.

STEVEN P SEVERIN 1 year ago

Reply to [Henry Rhapsody](#)

Half of them fail because it's hard as shit and expensive to open a business. You gotta be a certain type of crazy to make that leap. Ha ha. Look fwd to seeing ya there.

STEVEN P SEVERIN 1 year ago

We love Revolver. Been going there for years. There's also Sugarhill where they have records you can play. We're def. not recreating the wheel or anything. It's a bar. We are trying to add some twists to our space, but at the end of the day it's a bar. I've been part of the music and bar scene in Seattle for 20 years and the key word is part of it. We're all one big nightlife family and just championing for each other. Sorry if it came off differently. Not our intention. Just excited to put a new spot out there for folks to hopefully enjoy.

Nord 1 year ago

Reply to [STEVEN P SEVERIN](#)

I for one am glad to hear of a new place opening up and bringing some vitality to that stretch of Pike. Not to bemoan all the development in our city, but I've been here long enough to remember when those blocks seemed jam-packed with businesses, cafes, bars, and *life*. Every time I'm there now I see too many large spaces in the new apartment buildings with their street-level windows perpetually papered over. Good on y'all for taking the initiative and taking the risk. I hope it works out and that it's a great addition to the neighborhood.

STEVEN P SEVERIN 1 year ago

Reply to [Nord](#)

Thank you so much. We're really excited to join some of our long time friends and neighbors especially St. Johns and Honeyhole. I've been going to HH since the week it opened and have know the SJ fellas for quite awhile. Really excited to contribute to helping extend that stretch and connecting it with the rest of Pike.

Damon 1 year ago

Reply to [STEVEN P SEVERIN](#)

Yeah Steven you are literally stealing someone else's wheel. Sugar Hill is totally different than a 1970s them vinyl bar like Revolver. Your "idea" is literally a blatant rip off.

Levi 1 year ago

Reply to [STEVEN P SEVERIN](#)

Yeah Steven you are literally stealing someone else's wheel. Sugar Hill is totally different than a 1970s them vinyl bar like Revolver. Your "idea" is literally a blatant rip off.

STEVEN P SEVERIN 1 year ago

Reply to [Levi](#)

Let's wait to you see what it looks like before I'm a blatant ripoff. I mean you can think or say what you want and if you hate it, you don't have to come. Lots of other bars serving drinks and food. Give it a shot and see for yourself though. Maybe you'll like it. Maybe you won't. We shall see.

Ryan Packer 1 year ago

New plant-based food offerings on the west slope is such great news!

sasha 1 year ago

Referring to the owners of a new establishment as 'Kings', 'Queens' or 'Royalty' really shows an embarrassing desperation for their future ad revenue.



jseattle 1 year ago

Reply to [sasha](#)

Author

You can subscribe to CHS here, Sasha. Thanks for reading!

<https://www.capitolhillseattle.com/2019/01/subscribe-to-chs/>

wayoutwest 1 year ago

This does sound like Revolver, except for the menu – although I would say Revolver is early/mid 70s decor. It will be interesting to see what *late* 70s decor looks like. Also not clear on how they are ranking the late 70s as an “era in vinyl” above ...other eras “in vinyl”? Hopefully they have decent prices — \$7+ beers are bs.

But yeah, this corner needs some life. Good luck!

Luke 1 year ago

Karaoke please!!