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LOVE ON THE MENU IN L.A.: Cooking parties for L.A. Singles featuring “Tantalizing Tapas” in May

LOS ANGELES (April, 2004) Are you ready for blind-date cooking? Gourmet Gatherings and Matchlive.com, the events affiliate of Match.com, turn up the heat with “Meet and Eat,” an upscale culinary event where guests learn new cooking techniques, eat fabulous food, and meet other fun L.A. singles!

Starting this May, Gourmet Gatherings invites L.A. singles to participate in exciting hands-on cooking parties at the state of the art Sur La Table teaching kitchen in Santa Monica. Guests are greeted at the door with a nibble and a nametag. After an introductory cooking lesson featuring tips such as the fastest way to dice an onion without a tear, guests are broken into co-ed cooking teams. Each team works on a recipe from the evening’s delicious menu, all while sipping wine and listening to upbeat music. The group savors the “fruits” of their labor with new friends! After the event, copies of the recipes, digital photos and e-mail addresses are sent to the group.

May’s menu features “Tantalizing Tapas” including delectable small-dishes such as: Salt-roasted Prawns with Cilantro-Lime Aioli, Lamb Skewers with Tzatziki Sauce, Fiery Feta and Carrot Puree with Cumin Pita chips and Scharffen Berger Chunky Chocolate Cookies with Oats and Peanut Butter.

“Cooking is an ideal ice breaker. Because guests are focused on cooking together, it takes the pressure away from making small talk,” notes Chef and Co-Owner Bibby Gignilliat. “And nothing brings people better together better than cooking, wine and music,” adds Co-Owner Shannan Bishop.

Gourmet Gatherings designs fresh seasonal menus for each event. Guests don’t need cooking experience to attend. Tickets are \$89 per person for Match.com members and \$99 for non-members. The price includes cooking instruction by professional chefs, dishes using the finest, freshest ingredients, copies of the recipes and the camaraderie of cooking with new friends (or maybe a romance)! For more information, go to: www.gourmetgatherings.com or call (415) 437-9977. To purchase a ticket, go to www.matchlive.com and click on Los Angeles.

