

The New York Times

SUGAR EAST

Abraham Merchant has turned Merchants NY Cigar Bar, which he closed last year, into this homage to Havana. Cocktails are sunny with fruit and sultry with smoke.

The food, small bites by Stephen Lyle, who once owned Village in Greenwich Village, has a Caribbean beat, with lobster arepas, wings with a tamarind-BBQ glaze, and coconut floating islands.

Grandfathered from the cigar bar is a smoking permit. (Friday): 1125 First Avenue (62nd Street), 212-832-4610, sugar-east.com.