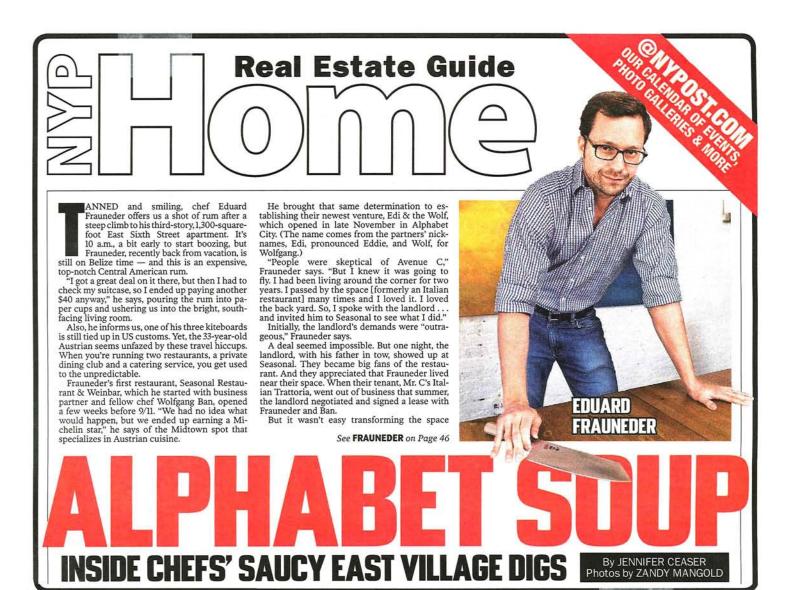


LATE CITY FINAL

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EDUARD

CHEFS STIR IT UP

FRAUNEDER from Page 39

into a *heuriger*, a traditional Austrian wine tavern.

After 10 weeks of construction — "I learned that the earlier the beer system is installed, the easier it is to keep the construction workers happy," Frauneder says — the rustic neighborhood spot, with communal tables, a no-reservations policy and what he calls an "egalitarian spirit," was born.

Though Frauneder spends most of his day at Edi & the Wolf, being so close to his job can be a bit unsettling. How close? Walk to the back of his railroad apartment, to the spacious open kitchen/

dining area, and you look right down onto the restaurant's back yard. "It's a very European

"It's a very European concept, to live on the same block as your restaurant," Frauneder explains. "Considering the hours we keep, logistically it makes sense. Plus, I never would have found the place if I hadn't been living here."

He had to negotiate for his rental in much the same way as he did for the restaurant space — by proving himself worthy. The apartment's owner was the daughter of a noted Austrian artist, Charles Keller, who'd used it as a studio. When he passed away in 2006, rather than putting his artwork in storage, she decided to leave his paintings (as well as some of her own) and find a suitable steward.

"She was looking for someone reliable," Frauneder says. "And I'm hardly ever at home. It's the perfect arrangement." (Of course, it likely helped that he was tall, handsome and Austrian.)

We believe him when he says he's rarely at home: The kitchen cupboards are empty; the refrigerator contains nothing but wine and beer.

He also hasn't had time to do much decorating. The large dining room table is from IKEA, as is much of the furniture in the front living room: a black leather couch (which he plans to replace soon), a white coffee table, an orange spaceage chair.

There are a few pieces of furniture that he "recycled" from the streets of the East Village; other items, bookcases and small tables, were there when he moved in. (The bed — which occu-

pies a sort of middle room in the apartment — is a new purchase.)

The overall look is minimalist, which is exactly what Frauneder was after. But he also likes dressing up the apartment's austere white walls with a rotating collection of the senior Keller's naintings.

Keller's paintings.

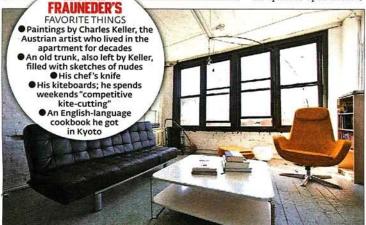
Two large works by Keller's daughter, Marthe, a famous artist in her own right, are hung more permanently. Her colorful canvas, "Fautrice del Diletto," made up of multiple squares, is in the dining room ("That took me three hours to hang correctly," Frauneder notes); in the bedroom is the diptych "Sines of Life." ("It's super dreamy and I love waking up to it," he says.)

But the artwork that's now occupying most of Frauneder's time are the sketches of the outdoor space at Edi & the Wolf. He hopes to turn the space into a 35-seat "wine garden" this spring, with special "hyperseasonal" tasting menus to be offered Thursday to Saturday.

"That rustic feeling inside will translate into the back yard," he says. As will the tenor of the restaurant — one based on the heuriger's casual, all-embracing approach.
"That's the spirit of the

East Village, too," Frauneders says. "Where the politician sits next to the truck driver. Where they can eat something simple but

good.



ALPHA MALE: When not manning one of his three restaurants, Frauneder can be found kiteboarding (usually on Long Island Sound, not his dining room table). His sparsely decorated living room is supplemented by a rotating collection of paintings from a previous resident.

