

Soho 119 to offer designer fashions

By JOYCE SMITH
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Deegie's Carma, which opened earlier this year in Kansas City, Kan., was a cutting-edge concept that combined contemporary clothing, salon and spa, and a food operation.

Now the founders, owners of New York-based **Three Wildcats LLC**, are taking the innovation to a more sophisticated level in a store opening

Wednesday at 4419 W. 119th St. in Leawood's **One Nineteen** center.



Soho 119 will open Wednesday at 4419 W. 119th St. in Leawood. Caleb Fangman, a visual merchandising specialist, dressed mannequins on Monday.

The new **Soho 119** targets women and men, 25 and older, with designers such as **Bill Blass, Donna Karan, Calvin Klein Collection, Hickey, Yeohlee** and **Robert Rodriguez**. In the back of the 12,000-square-foot space is a white-tablecloth, full-service restaurant serving gourmet food by executive chef/restaurant manager Chris Dressel.

After hours, it will have a speakeasy feel as customers come through the backdoor for one of its signature cocktails.

Then there's the Vinotherapy Med Spa — for skin therapy using grape derivatives, along with Botox and laser treatments. A doctor will be on-site two days a week, and there are private rooms for hair services, massages, facials and other body treatments.

“While Deegie's is pumped up, noisy and fun, Soho 119 is sexy, languid, sophisticated,” said Carmela Spinelli, chief creative officer of Three Wildcats. “It's also a lifestyle store where you come in and outfit all the events of your life. You'll see items from designers everyone knows but some things that are not in the mainstream.”

Spinelli formerly was with the department of fashion design of the **Parsons The New School for Design** under Tim Gunn. Her partners in Three Wildcats are John Wilson, former president of **Vestimenta Inc.**, who is president and chief executive officer, and David Hulshof, an investment banker, strategic growth and financial management executive, who is chief financial officer.

They have teamed up with **RED Development**, of Kansas City and Phoenix, and a private development group led by RED to open Soho 119, as well as Deegie's Carma.

Deegie's Carma, meanwhile, has relocated to a pop-up location in **Camelot Court** — north of One Nineteen — and the owners expect to sign on a permanent location in the next few weeks. The shop will just concentrate on clothing until the first of the year when it will add the food operation and salon and spa services it offered at the Kansas City, Kan., location.

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