



Food & Dining

The best things we ate and drank in 2016



Egg yolk at Smyth

(Zbigniew Bzdak / Chicago Tribune)

John B. Shields' dungeness crab and foie gras with scrambled crab brains has already achieved cult status, so I'm going to spotlight Karen Urie Shields' extraordinary dessert, an egg yolk poached in salted licorice-vanilla syrup, surrounded by egg whites whipped into a cross between yogurt, sorbetto and meringue. The chewy yolk, the creamy whites, crunchy accents from fried farro, a hint of raspberry — this was my favorite dessert of 2016. 177 N. Ada St., 773-913-3773, www.smythandtheloyalist.com. — Phil Vettel

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Restaurant critic Phil Vettel and colleagues reflect on the best dishes and drinks they had in Chicago restaurants and bars this year.