

RIC ORLANDO



Ric Orlando has been called the Pioneer of Hudson Valley Farm to Table cooking. He brings an inspired blend of lust for life, outspoken passion for the flavors and ingredients of the world community, and nationally renowned cooking prowess to his roles as chef, lecturer, author, and media source. His tireless work in promoting the products, people, and beauty of the Upstate NY region combined with his quirky sense of humor and rock and roll pedigree has made him one of the leading culinary spokespeople and best foodie draws for events, fundraisers and festivals. Just for fun, the Albany Times Union in February 2014 named Ric the Capital Region's Sexiest Chef.

Ric appeared on the national stage most recently in the November 5, 2015 episode of Food Network's *Beat Bobby Flay*, in which his potato latkes did indeed beat Chef Flay's. Previously, Ric appeared in the 2013 World Food Championships, Next Top Product Category. His Eggplant "Meatballs" won the top prize for the Northeast region. In 2010, Ric appeared on the Food Network's runaway hit *CHOPPED* three times, winning in his first appearance, "Wok This Way." Judge Mark Murphy declared that Ric's Rum-Raisin Jerk Quail was the "best thing I have eaten on Chopped!" He was then selected to appear in the very first *Chopped Champions*, where he also won in the playoff round, wowing the judges in the dessert round with his humorously innovative concoction - Ziggy Taco and the Pear Filling from Mars.

He has appeared over a dozen times on the NBC TODAY show, PBS, NPR, Discovery, Sirius Radio, as well as many other regional media appearances. Ric produced, wrote and starred in the 13-episode regional Public Television series Ric Orlando's TV Kitchen in 2003.

Some of Ric's many public appearances include being the keynote chef for high profile events including the 2015 Millbrook Winery 30th Anniversary Harvest Party, 2014 Saratoga Winefestival, the 2014 International Wine Masters' Wine and Food Festival; 2013 "Hudson Valley in the Big Apple" at the James Beard House in NYC; the 2012 Martha's Vineyard Food and Wine Fest; The Cooking School of Aspen; The Chef and Vintner's Harvest Dinner for the Regional Food Bank of North East NY; Hudson Valley Food and Wine Festival; Hudson Valley Harvest at Mohonk Mountain House; and The Hudson Valley Garlic Festival.

Ric's cultural roots stem from the underground music and art scene through the 1980s in New York, New Haven and Boston, where he also gathered his passion for Global flavors eating urban ethnic cheap eats. Before doing his own thing, he developed his culinary experience at groundbreaking restaurants such as Elm City in New Haven, Harvest in Cambridge, Massachusetts, The Wild Goose in Boston, Sugar Reef in Manhattan, and Yates Street and Justin's in Albany.

Ric is currently at work with co-writer Peter Barret (co writer of Project 258 with Zac Pellaccio) on a new cookbook and a Memoir of his early food memories entitled "Belly Clams and Apizza"

- **Chef, Owner:** [New World Home Cooking Cafe](#) 1993-2018
- **Chef, Management Consultant** [New World Bistro Bar](#), Albany, NY 2009-present
- **Blog** <http://ricthechef.blogspot.com>
- **2015 Food Network WINNER, BEAT BOBBY FLAY "It's a Family Affair"**
- **2010 Food Network CHOPPED CHAMPION, Episode 5.2**
- **CHOPPED CHAMPIONS 2010 SEMI FINAL ROUND WINNER**
- **NORTHEAST WINNER, NEXT TOP PRODUCT-WORLD FOOD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2013**
- **Reader's Poll Winner, BEST OF Albany Times Union**
 - **Best Chef 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018**
 - **Best Farm to Table 2017**
 - **Best Vegetarian Choices 2016, 2017**
 - **BEST Independent Restaurant 2014, 2015**
- **Reader's Poll winner Best of Hudson Valley, Hudson Valley Magazine:**
 - **2014, 2015, 2017 Best Chef**

- **2014, 2015, 2017 Best Ulster County Restaurant (New World Home Cooking)**
- **2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 Best Gluten Free (New World Home Cooking)**
- **2014, 2015, 2016 Best Albany County Restaurant (New World Bistro Bar)•**
-
- **Capital Region Live Magazine “BESTIE” Awards 2017
Best Bistro**

- **2015 TOP 15 NY Restaurants not in NYC, Thrillist.com**

- **Host/Creator/Writer** Ric Orlando's TV Kitchen (WMHT/PBS)
- **Author** [We Want Clean Food](#), CF Press
- **Chef Instructor-Performer:**
 - **Saratoga Wine Fest Different Drummers Kitchen**
- **Regular Guest, VOX POP, WAMC Northeast Public Radio/NPR**
- **Web** ricorlando.com