

# SURFACE

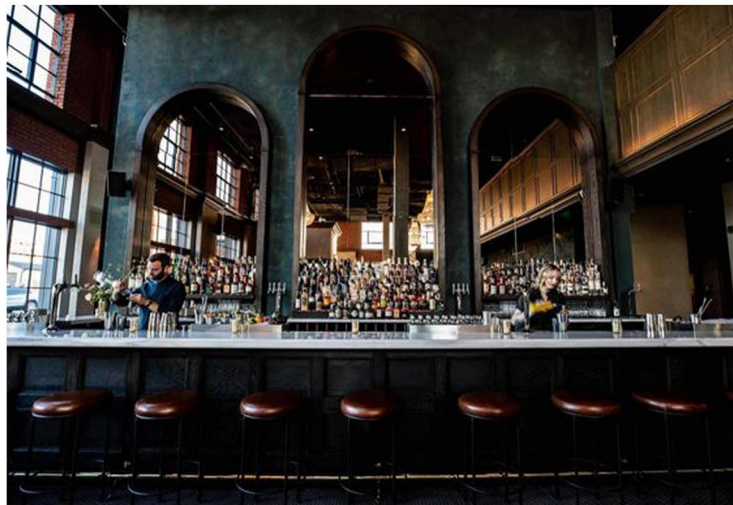
TRAVEL

## Rising: Denver's Arts District Has a Newfound Energy

Call it the RiNo, downtown, or whatever you wish, the River North Arts District promises pleasures in the Mile-High.

KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS

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A hint of seediness has been part of downtown Denver's brand since its Wild West days—something current locals wear as a badge of pride. The Mile-High City was, after all, a dusty, dodgy Vegas in the 19th century. But downtown's RiNo (River North) district is rapidly transitioning from tumbledown to enticing as the creative crowd descends on the area. Here are five new spots to put on your itinerary.

### Death & Co

The first outpost of New York's East Village institution is more than twice as large as the original, having appropriated nearly the entire beech wood-floored lobby of the new 50-room boutique hotel, [The Ramble](#). (The mezzanine's more intimate 22-seat bar, Suite 6A, channels the vibe of the original.) Served in a clubby setting courtesy of L.A.-based Avenue Interior Design with an assist from AAmp Studio, the drinks are every bit as inventive as what you'd find in Manhattan, though these local variations nod to the sort of exploits once experienced in Colorado's Front Range—the No Paddle cocktail with bourbon, blanc vermouth, Campari, raspberry brandy, and grapefruit being a potent example.