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Fresco's Pasta Bar now open

By [Emily Weiss](#) Fri., Nov. 9 2012 at 7:33 AM

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Courtesy Fresco's Facebook page

One of the endless pasta possibilities at the newly opened Fresco's

It's hard to put your finger on any unrepresented food niches at the Midtown Global Market. You've got your Mexican, your Swedish sausages, your tortas, cupcakes, gyros, [Korean soul food](#), and even camel burgers. But the one thing missing? Italian food. Italian! There *is* Jakeeno's, but that's more focused on the pizza. But that omission has now been corrected, thanks to catering industry vet Danielle Gooderum, who has created a make-your-own pasta bar, Fresco's, and just held its grand opening last week.

Here's the scoop on what's on the menu:

The main idea behind Fresco's is that diners choose their own combination of ingredients with different options of noodles, sauces, meats, and veggies to make a customized pasta dish. Gooderum does the same thing with big chopped salads. Like to have some preselected combos for inspiration? Fresco's menu also includes pancetta mac 'n' cheese, classic bolognese, polpetta (meatballs in roasted red pepper sauce), and habanero shrimp pasta, among others.

Gooderum joins venerable restaurateurs such as Thomas Kim and Kat Melgaard of the Left Handed Cook who were pleased to find the much more manageable option of running a stall in the market after being overwhelmed by all the rigamarole involved with opening a stand-alone restaurant.

Once service is running smoothly, Gooderum plans to add a deli case with take-home options, which have proved popular at other MGM stalls.

