# Acclaimed Belfast Restaurant Blank Closes, Owners Launch New Venture Saga



Christina and Jonny Taylor, proprietors of the acclaimed Belfast restaurant Blank, have announced its closure due to financial pressures within the hospitality sector. Established in 2021, Blank was known for its no-menu fine dining concept and was listed in the Michelin Guide just 15 months after opening.

The couple has since launched a new venture, Saga, in the same Malone Road location. Unlike Blank, Saga offers a more casual and accessible dining experience, featuring an a la carte menu that retains some popular dishes from Blank, such as the duck dish from their last tasting menu.

Jonny Taylor, originally from Antrim, has extensive experience in award-winning kitchens and has worked with renowned chefs like Paul Rankin and Jamie Oliver. Christina Taylor has a background in managing major UK hospitality brands including Living Ventures and Jamie’s Italian.

Saga opened its doors on June 13 and operates from Thursday to Sunday. The restaurant maintains a commitment to local produce and aims to provide a diverse range of flavors. Notable dishes include the wagyu carpaccio, which Christina hopes will become a signature item.

The Taylors are not alone in adapting their business model; others in the local industry, such as Michael Deane and Gemma Austin, have also restructured their offerings in response to changing circumstances.