

SoWa adding to its offerings, starting this opening weekend

by Bessie King

MySouthEnd.com Contributor

Wednesday May 13, 2009



This weekend SoWa's Open Market will include a new offering: the SoWa Antiques Market. (Source:Marvin Getman)

This weekend SoWa's Open Market will open for the season on Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17 at 540 Harrison Avenue. The market will continue to open every Sunday through October 25.

The SoWa Open Market offers products from artisans, independent designers, artists and cooks alike. Open to all ages, the outdoors location also gives people a chance to enjoy the warm weather while browsing. In addition to the regular market the SoWa Antiques Market will also open shop as Boston's only weekend antiques market.

"There are two distinct markets, The SoWa Open Market...and SoWa Antiques Market, located

in the old trolley barn. It will coincide with the Open Market and will contain only dealers of antiques and vintage items. This is long overdue for Boston," said Marvin Getman, who runs the antiques market.

The SoWa Open Market started six years ago and has become a unique and popular addition to the South End. Getman explains that as an antiques show producer in the Boston area, always looking for suitable, interesting venues, the trolley barn caught his attention a year ago while visiting the regular market.

"I envisioned this great structure as the home of a bustling antiques market. In the last year, it has been going through a thorough cleaning and restoration," he said. "It is a beautiful architectural gem hidden in the city [and] I have always thought that Boston needs a market like the great markets in Europe; after all we are a world-class city."

At the new market people will be able to browse and shop among the city's largest selection of antiques and quality collectibles, including vintage fashion, art deco, mid-century modern furniture, jewelry, books, art glass and more. Antiques dealers from throughout New England can continuously apply to be vendors at the market. With his experience as an antiques show promoter, Getman is able to use a long list of contacts to ensure that every Sunday something new will appear. He said that dealers from New York will be present this opening weekend and that the selection of pieces will be as unique as the market that originated everything.

SoWa Open Market will also welcome a large fresh produce market next to Rocca Restaurant, run by Russo's Market of Watertown. With this third market addition, the public will be able to purchase handcrafted accessories, local art, clothing, antiques and food and other items in one place.

"We expect that it will be a very lively, fun place to visit for the entire neighborhood every week and you'll never know what treasures you might uncover, like the original 1918 Harley Davidson, this weekend," added Getman.

For more information about the market visit www.southendopenmarket.com.