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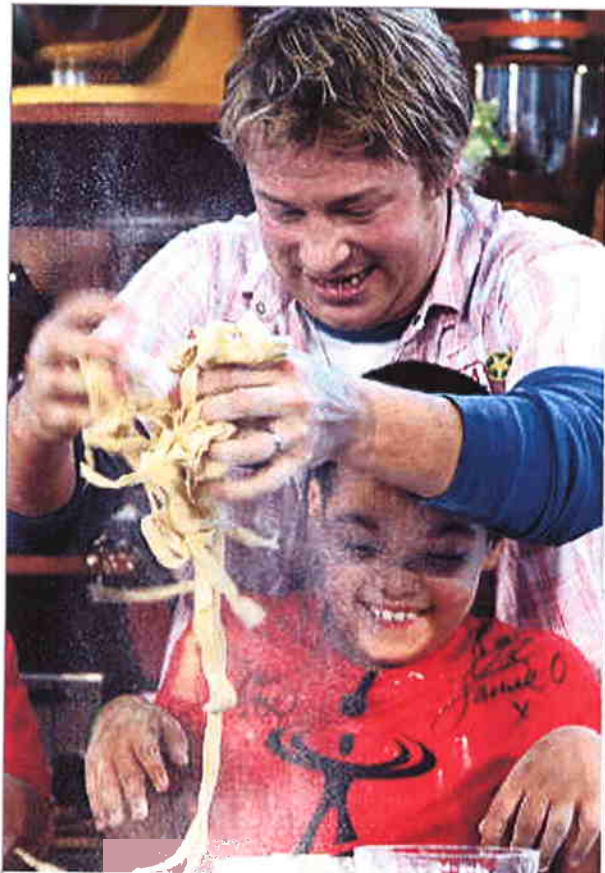
Festival Notebook: Michael's finds a genuine fan in Jamie Oliver

Posted on Sat, Feb. 23, 2008

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When we caught up with **Jamie Oliver**, one of the honorees at Sunday's tribute brunch, in the green room at the Grand Tasting Village, he couldn't stop raving about a meal he'd had the night before at **Michael Schwartz's** Michael's Genuine Food & Drink in the Design District.

"He is an incredible talent," Oliver said of Schwartz. "I have to say, of all the places I've been to in America in the



DONNA E. NATALE PLANAS / MIAMI HERALD STAFF

With the flour flying, chef Jamie Oliver has fun making pasta with Zeke Hernandez, 8, of Miami, during the Fun & Fit As A Family event on Saturday, part of the South Beach Wine & Food Festival.

last 10 years, it's in my top five.

"Any old wanker can make something with too many ingredients and call it high cuisine. But it takes bravery and know-how to serve a simple tomato salad and just smash it. He is just incredible, down to the oils that he uses, the vinegars."

-- LYDIA MARTIN