

TATLER

ABOUT TOWN

Photographed by PAL HANSEN

THE CHEF

Are you looking for a restaurant to take a first date? Somewhere candlelit and flickery, with discreet nooks and drinks so magnificently strong that you'll be frothing after the first round?

You'll need Jackson Boxer's gaff, Brunswick House. It's hidden away in a strangely marooned, listed building to the side of Vauxhall roundabout. Go there for fresh trout, perhaps, followed by marmalade ice cream, and your chances of getting lucky will be increased by 72 per cent. He's that good.

Jackson, 28, is one of those convivial sorts who touches you seconds after you meet. Not in a pervy way – just a little pat on the arm or shoulder. But if it was in a pervy way, you wouldn't care, because he is so hypnotically charming. He has the floppy hair of Hugh Grant circa 1994, and the same self-deprecating Englishness. He pairs his chef whites with a signet ring and went to Oxford.

He's also food royalty: the grandson of food writer Arabella Boxer – 'she taught me everything' – and her husband, the late *Tatler* editor Mark Boxer, and son of Charlie, who has a bustling deli called Italo, also in Vauxhall. Jackson's younger brother runs a seasonal hipster café in Peckham, the eponymous Frank's. And now there's Roma, *left*, Jackson's eight-month-old daughter with his stylist girlfriend, Melissa Thompson. Roma happily gurgles in the corner at Brunswick or in Dalston at Rita's, a venture launched last year. There your fingers will get sticky picking over proper fried chicken. But that's maybe one for your second date. *Sophia Money-Coutts*
At 30 Wandsworth Road, SW8
(brunswickhouse.co; 020 7720 2926).

