

The Sweet Spot: Coffee Jelly from Resobox in L.I.C.

[Editors](#)

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Resobox's coffee jelly is refreshing and robust.

Resobox is not the type of place one expects to find a stone's throw from Queensboro Plaza. The art gallery and cafe seems like it belongs in Soho, or better yet Tokyo. There's a vibrant coffee culture in Japan and Fumio Tashiro has brought a bit of it to Long Island City. Back in Tokyo he learned how to make nel—short for flannel—drip coffee. Slowly filtered through a flannel bag of sorts, it makes for a fine cup of coffee.

What I really like about Resobox apart from its relaxed Japanese vibe and nel drip coffee is the coffee jelly (\$3). It's the essence of robust coffee distilled down into a jewel-like deep brown gelatinous form using agar. Topped with a cloud of sweetened whipped cream, it is as refreshing as a scoop of coffee ice cream, yet lighter and more intense. Tashiro said coffee jelly is fairly common in Japan. I am glad it found its way to this little corner of L.I.C.

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