

**The first-ever China Sommeliers Wine Challenge 2009 makes history with its world-class sommelier judges and stellar wines**



The first Sommeliers Wine Challenge held in conjunction with Wine and Spirits China has seen a surprising number of Gold winners from New World wines, but the more surprising observation from the international judges that participated was how good they found the wines that they tasted in the challenge.

Master Sommelier Mr. Michael Jordan from the United States remarked after a long day of wine-tasting, that after 2 flights of wines, his team of judges, that comprised local and international sommeliers, all felt that the wines were of superior quality. President of the Argentinean Sommelier Association, Mr. Andres Rosberg concurred: “I have judged in countless international wine competitions, and some of these competitions have up to 4000 wine entries, but many of the wines submitted are of such poor quality, so judges like Michael and I are very encouraged by what we have experienced in this challenge”. Co-organiser of the challenge and renowned wine educator, Mr. Tommy Lam, concluded that “when the wine companies know that the judges would be professional sommeliers and experts in their field, I think they sent in some of their best wines”.

The judging panel also consisted of local sommeliers, amongst them were the top 3 winners of the China National Sommelier Competition, Mr. Hans Qu from Shenzhen Intercontinental, Ms. Vivian Tian from Kee Club, and Mr. Jason Shi from China World Hotel. Joining them were the Director of wine from Pudong Shangri-La, Mr. Kelvin Tay,, who was also the Head of the Panel, the previous Penfolds’ Sommelier Champion Mr. Lu Yang from The Peninsula, and Mr. Franck Crouvezier from Kathleens 5. The competition was carried out under the most stringent conditions, as the wines were chilled, monitored and served by the Pan-American Sommelier Champion, Ms. Elyse Lambert from Canada. As observed by Mr. Crouvezier – “the organization, team and wines in this competition was of world-class standards”.

With a mix of local and international professionals, it ensured that the local Chinese market and palate was well represented. At the same time, this event allowed the aspiring local sommeliers to be exposed to the experience and knowledge of their international peers, and proved to be a great platform for professional exchange amongst them.

The awards will be presented on the opening day of Wine and Spirits China at FHC China trade fair on 18<sup>th</sup> November at SNIEC. If local buyers are interested to have a taste of the wines that won, they would need to be invited to the VIP wine tasting room at the fair, which would carry award winning and other wines.

For invites to the awards presentation or the VIP wine tasting room, please contact Stacey Choe at +86 159 0122 4160, or email: [Stacey.choe@asia-businessgroup.com](mailto:Stacey.choe@asia-businessgroup.com)



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## RESULTS OF SOMMELIER WINE CHALLENGE

(Wines listed according to alphabetical order of wine name)

### **BEST OF CLASS**

1. Ayala Brut Majeur, Champagne, France (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co., Ltd)
2. 2001 BODEGAS CHIVITE Coleccion 125 Reserva, Navarra, Spain (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
3. 2005 Cathedral Cellar Triptych KWV, Western Cepe, South Africa (Shanghai Capel Industry Co.ltd.)
4. 2008 Condo Wines (Cabernet Sauvignon), South Australia (Condo Wines)
5. Eagle Canyon Fortified 2006, Stellenbosch, South Africa (Eagle Canyon International Trading Qingdao Co.ltd.)
6. 2008 Erlesenes Vom Grunen Veltliner, Niederosterreich, Austria (Weingut Turk)
7. 2006 Familia Mayol Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina (GroupTrade Limited)
8. 2004 Farmer's Leap Shiraz, Padtaway-Limestone Coast South Australia (Farmer's Leap PTY Ltd.)
9. 2006 Marques de Casa Concha Merlot, Rapel Valley, France (Summergate Fine Wines)
10. 2007 Montana Reserve Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand (Pernod Ricard China)
11. 2006 Terrunyo Carmenere, Cachapoal Valley, Chile (Summergate Fine Wines)
12. 2006 Toscana IGT, Modus, Ruffino, Tuscany, Italy (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
13. 2008 Villa Maria Cellar Selection Riesling, Marlborough, New Zealand, (Summergate Fine Wines)
14. 2008 Viniterra Reserve Viognier, Mendoza, Argentina (GroupTrade Limited)
15. 2007 Word Vineyards Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir, Santa Maria Valley, California (Word Vineyards)



### **GOLD WINNERS**

1. Ayala Brut Majeur, Champagne, France (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co., Ltd)
2. 2006 Boat O'Craigo Shiraz, Yarra Valley, Australia (AB Wine PTY Ltd.)
3. 2001 BODEGAS CHIVITE Coleccion 125 Reserva, Navarra, Spain (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
4. 2005 Cathedral Cellar Triptych KWV, Western Cepe, South Africa (Shanghai Capel Industry Co.ltd.)
5. 2008 Condo Wines (Cabernet Sauvignon), South Australia (Condo Wines)
6. 2008 Condo Wines (Rose), South Australia (Condo Wines)
7. 2004 d'Arenberg Galvo Garage Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot-Petit Verdot, McLaren Vale, Australia (Summergate Fine Wines)
8. Eagle Canyon Fortified 2006, Stellenbosch, South Africa (Eagle Canyon International Trading Qingdao Co.ltd.)
9. 2008 Erlesenes Vom Grunen Veltliner, Niederosterreich, Austria (Weingut Turk)
10. 2007 EROICA Riesling, Dr Loosen and Chateau Ste-Michelle, Columbia Valley, USA (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
11. 2006 Familia Mayol Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina (GroupTrade Limited)
12. 2004 Farmer's Leap Shiraz, Padtaway-Limestone Coast South Australia (Farmer's Leap PTY Ltd.)

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13. 2005 Farmer's Leap-Shiraz, Padtaway-Limestone Coast South Australia (Farmer's Leap PTY Ltd.)
14. 2008 FORREST Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
15. 2006 Marques de Casa Concha Merlot, Rapel Valley, France (Summergate Fine Wines)
16. 2007 Montana Reserve Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand (Pernod Ricard China)
17. 2006 Montana Reserve Marlborough Pinot Noir, Marlborough, New Zealand (Pernod Ricard China)
18. 2007 Monte Da Ravasqueira Vinha Das Romas Red 2007, Alentejo, Portugal (Sociedade Agricola D.Diniz,S.A.-Monte Da Ravasqueira)
19. 2006 PETALUMA Adelaide Hills Shiraz, Adelaide Hills, Australia (ASC Fine Wines (Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
20. 2006 Pinot Noir BA, Neusiedlersee, Austria (Weingut Hemut Lang)
21. 2006 Strewn Cabernet Franc Icewine, Niagara Penninsula, Canada (Strewn Estate Winery)
22. 2006 Terrunyo Carmenere, Cachapoal Valley, Chile (Summergate Fine Wines)
23. 2006 Toscana IGT, Modus, Ruffino, Tuscany, Italy (ASC Fine Wines Shanghai) Co.,Ltd.)
24. Villa Maria Cellar Selection Riesling, Marlborough, New Zealand, (Summergate Fine Wines)
25. 2008 Viniterra Reserve Viognier, Mendoza, Argentina (GroupTrade Limited)
26. 2007 Word Vineyards Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir, Santa Maria Valley, California (Word Vineyards)
27. 2004 Yalumba Hand Picked Shiraz Viognier, Barossa, Australia (Summergate Fine Wines)
28. 2008 Yalumba Y Series Viognier, Eden Valley, Australia (Summergate Fine Wines)

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