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Another successful year of Wine & Gourmet Asia in Macau

Acclaim from food, beverage and hospitality professionals for niche event held 5-7 November 2008 at the Cotai® Strip CotaiExpo™ at The Venetian Macao-Resort-Hotel

The second Wine & Gourmet Asia ended on a high note with a sensational Gala Dinner at The Venetian® Macao-Resort-Hotel. More than two hundred guests joined the organizer, Koelnmesse, in celebrating the art of cuisine and wine as guest masterchefs presented a great banquet paired with exquisite wines from Chateau Villa Bel Air, Abbona Cinerino, Maison Champy, Xisto and Quinta de la Rosa. The masterchefs included Three-Michelin-starred Jean-Michel Lorain from France, Portuguese culinary star Vitor Sobral, trendsetter of modern Chinese cuisine Sam Leong from Singapore and master Pâtissier Paco Torreblanca from Spain.

Wine & Gourmet Asia is a trade, networking and culinary platform showcasing the very best of Asia-Pacific's fine wine, gourmet and hospitality industry. It was held at Cotai Strip® at CotaiExpo™ at The Venetian® Macao-Resort-Hotel from 5-7 November. The event is for the region's hospitality industry leaders as well as all gourmards and wine enthusiasts. This year, 7,092 trade visitors from around 18 countries and regions took advantage of the opportunity the fair offered to obtain extensive information on the products presented by the key distributors and suppliers of gourmet food and wine in the region.

Asia Pacific Vice President of Koelnmesse, Michael Dreyer said, "Feedback from the floor is very positive, with many exhibitors complimenting the quality of visitors and organization. We are pleased to receive such encouragement and look forward to putting up another successful show next year."



Wine & Gourmet ASIA
05. – 07.11.2008

Held in conjunction with



An Epicurean Banquet of
Wine & Gourmet

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Paul Iec, Managing Director of Seapower complimented, "This is the most professional exhibition in Macau and we are happy to showcase all our products and labels here. The event serves as a gateway to all our customers and the supporting events such as the Asian Cocktail Championship, the masterclasses and local hospitality competitions provide more avenues for all participants to interact."

New exhibitors were equally pleased with their participation this year. Taro Nishikawa, International Division Deputy Manager of JTB Communications represented the Japan pavilion to say, "The show is lively and bustling with many beautifully designed booths. We have selected this show to exhibit as we believe that the Macau hospitality industry will continue its growth and this is a show that gathers all of the local industry players." From the Portugal pavilion, Alice Souza Machado, International Direct Trade Market Expert, Association of the Portuguese Industry – Business Confederation commented that, "All our exhibitors are very satisfied and we hope to bring in new exhibitors next year. I would definitely recommend Wine & Gourmet Asia as a trade show to attend."

A full scale of multi-faceted events was held alongside the trade fair, providing an all-rounded experience for visitors and exhibitors. The comprehensive list of supporting events includes the annual Asian Cocktail Championship, MORS Gold Pin Competition, Macau Culinary Alliance Winning Showpiece Display, 'Behind the Scenes' – Tour at The Venetian®, Hospitality Trends Forum, culinary, wine and whisky masterclasses.

The supporting events were well-received by the exhibitors, as commented by Cecilia Ng, Marketing Manager of Food Services & Hotel Supplies at DKSH Hong Kong, "It is very good to have all these supporting events which bring in the chefs, hoteliers and restaurateurs."

Wine & Gourmet Asia was further supported by an epicurean dining program with three headlining events such as the Opening Reception which presented the cuisine from all the hosting establishments, a Three-Michelin starred dinner hosted at Crown Macau and a magnificent closing Gala Dinner which was a grand finale for the event. There were supporting menu promotions presented by the guest masterchefs at each of their hosting establishments.

Chef Jean-Michel Lorain (hosted at Crown Macau), chef Vitor Sobral (hosted at MGM GRAND Macau), chef Sam Leong (hosted at The Venetian® Macao-Resort-Hotel) and chef Paco Torreblanca flew in from around the world to present their culinary masterpieces for the pleasure of gourmands and wine lovers delighted in the premium wines of Bouchard Père & Fils, Billecart-Salmon among others.

Wine & Gourmet Asia is strongly supported by local government organizations including Macau Government Tourist Office and Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute. Mr João Manuel Costa Antunes, Director of Macau Government Tourist Office commented, "I believe the hosting of Wine and Gourmet Asia 2008 in Macau again is a vote of confidence to Macau, both as a culinary and wine capital as well as a business tourism destination in Asia."

A number of winners were announced at the competitions held:

- Asian Cocktail Championship – Flairtending Cocktail (local), with 21 participants was won by Mel Anthony Padua from Star World, second prize winner was Raymond Peng from The Venetian Macao and the second runner-up was Yim Sang Chul from Show Time Music Bar & Lounge. The winner of the local category then went on to compete with the overseas competitors.
- Asian Cocktail Championship – Flairtending Cocktail (overseas), with 21 participants was won by Kuo Yung Yi from Taiwan followed by Mel Anthony Padua from Macau, then Daniel Koguciuk from Poland.
- Asian Cocktail Championship – Classical Cocktail (local) with 40 participants was won by Katherie A Turla from Wynn Macau, with Leo Leng from Four Season Macau in second place and Allan Verina taking the third position.
- Asian Cocktail Championship – Classical Cocktail (overseas) with 19 participants was won by Kyomi Yumoto from Japan, in second place was Takashi Yoshida from Japan and in third place was Liu Min-Hsin from Taiwan.
- MORS (Macau Occupational skills Recognition System) Gold Pin Competition 2008, the winners of each category are:

- *Assistant Cook – Liu Cun Fu, Sands Macao & Fong Wai Hong, MGM GRAND Macau*
- *Bartender – Rebecca Lim Yen Yuay, Crown Macau & Yang Zhong Wen, Sands Macao*
- *Waiter and Waitress (Western Restaurant Service) – Men Hui, Hotel Lisboa & Sharon Balasbas Jaime, Wynn Macau*
- *Waiter and Waitress (Chinese Restaurant Service) – Chang Jian, MGM GRAND Macau & Liang Li Ming, Casa Real Hotel*
- *Front Desk Agent/ Customer Relations Officer – He Rongxing, Metropole Hotel & Chiang Leng, Institute for Tourism Studies*
- *Room Attendant – Wang DingWei, Crown Macau & Fang Kui, Hotel Lisboa*
- *Concierge and Bell Attendant – Wu YueMing, Grand Emperor Hotel & Zhong JiangXiong, Crown Macau*
- *Chinese Cook – Cantonese Cuisine (Intermediate Level) – Lei Su Wang, Hotel Lisboa & Xie Wei Xing, Grandview Hotel*
- *Chinese Cook – Cantonese Dim Sum(Intermediate Level) – Luo Yan Bao, Hotel Lisboa & Ho Cheok Weng, MGM GRAND Macau*

· Macau Culinary Alliance Show Piece Competition, the winners of each category are:

Overall champion with the highest points in all competitions – Hidekazu Kawakami, Macau Tower

Best artistic cake show piece – Lei Fu Weng, Wynn Macau

Best Live Chocolate Showpiece – Ip Kwok Hei, Wynn Macau

Wine & Gourmet ASIA is organized by Koelnmesse, organizer of the world's largest food trade show, ANUGA, and is supported by the Macau Government Tourist Office, Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute, China Hong Kong Bartender's Association, Institute of Tourism Studies, Macau Culinary Alliance, Wine Society of Macau, and Hong Kong Chefs Association.

For more information about the event: www.wineandgourmetasia.com.



Key exhibitor Seapower showcased over 80 brands and products



Winner of the Asian Cocktail Championship – Flairtending Competition demonstrates his expertise



Masterchefs Vitor Sobral, Paco Torreblanca, Jean-Michel Lorain, Sam Leong

Photos available for download at <http://www.koelnmesse.com.sg/WGA-Press/>