

press release

Resorts World Sentosa Unveils Lineup for Wine Pinnacle Awards and The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival 2019 *Nominees announced for world's first-ever nomination-based wine award and festival featuring over 400 wines and sakes curated by top wine professionals*



Nominees of the inaugural Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019 will be showcased during the three-day celebration.



SINGAPORE, 21 August 2019 – Cementing itself as Asia’s premium lifestyle destination, Resorts World Sentosa (RWS, 圣淘沙名胜世界) will host the inaugural Wine Pinnacle Awards and The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival 2019 **from 10 to 12 October 2019**. Poised to be Southeast Asia’s most prestigious event for oenophiles, the three-day celebration will kick off with a Wine Pinnacle Awards Gala Dinner in collaboration with two Michelin-starred La Grand’Vigne, followed by a showcase of over 400 wines, including award-nominated wines and Japanese sake at The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival 2019. As a teaser of the lavish affair, the top five exceptional wines in their respective categories that have made their way into the coveted nominees list are unveiled today (please refer to Annex).

Nominees of The Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019

Since June 2019, an independent jury of over 50 wine professionals – made up of Masters of Wine, Master Sommeliers, wine influencers and sommeliers from top fine dining restaurants from the United Kingdom, USA, Europe and Asia Pacific – curated by the Wine Pinnacle Awards Committee, the award's own team of five illustrious wine experts, have casted their votes through a secured online nomination ballot. Categories, totaling up to 27, touch on a wide range of premium wines and include awards for “Best Bordeaux Wine from 1996”, “Best Chinese Red” and even “Black Swan of the Year” for the most thought-provoking wine.

With the rise of the natural wine movement in recent years, nominees of “Best Organic/Natural Wine of the Year” – which include *Domaine Sebastien Riffault, Sancerre Auksinis, Loire, France* and *Ochota Barrels, 186 Grenache, McLaren Vale, Australia* – and “Best Friend of the Earth (Most Environmentally-Conscious Winemaker)” – who include *Ms. Isabelle Legeron MW (UK)*, *Ms. Jacques Néauport (France)*, *Ms. Lalou Bize-Leroy (France)*, *Mr. Miguel Torres (Spain)* and *Mr. Nicolas Joly (France)* – will interest the wine fraternity worldwide.

The “Best Chinese Red” category – where nominees include *Ao Yun, Yunnan, China; Grace Vineyard, Tasya's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Shanxi, China; Helan Qing Xue, Jia Bei Lan Dry Red, Ningxia, China; Silver Heights, Emma's Reserve, Ningxia, China* and *Silver Heights, The Summit, Ningxia, China* – shines the spotlight on world-class wines that are produced in China. The Gala Dinner will conclude with the announcement of the Grand Jury Award where the Wine Pinnacle Awards Committee celebrates the absolute best of this year's showing.

"I am delighted to see that the inaugural Wine Pinnacle Awards has recognised an exciting list of top wines from around the world. The results are diverse and encompass major wine regions – from mature fine wines, to new exciting recent releases and hidden treasures; the results highlight the best wines from France, Italy, Australia, USA, China, Spain and South America. Finally, a wine competition with a panel of experienced jury members is awarding the very best wines and wineries based on quality and consistency rather than being restricted by wine submissions!" explained Wine Pinnacle Awards Committee member and the first Asian Master of Wine, Ms. Jeannie Cho Lee.

The Wine Pinnacle Awards Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony on 10 October 2019



Chef Nicolas Masse of two Michelin-starred La Grand'Vigne located amidst the Graves vineyards in Bordeaux, France will cook at the Wine Pinnacle Awards Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony on 10 October 2019.



The Wine Pinnacle Awards Gala Dinner menu will be expertly paired by sought-after expressions from Château Smith-Haut-Lafitte as well as nominees of the Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019.

Kicking off the three-day celebration is a lavish invite-only Wine Pinnacle Awards Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony on 10 October 2019. Held in the Resorts World Ballroom, the black-tie event will gather not only the crème de la crème of wines, as voted by the world's leading wine professionals, but also luminaries of the wine world, ranging from wine collectors and sommeliers to winemakers,

from across the globe. The awards will honour 24 wines with the highly-anticipated Grand Jury Award to be chosen amongst the winners as the crown jewel of this year's showing, and celebrate talented wine professionals in three award categories.

Normandy native Nicolas Masse of two Michelin-starred La Grand'Vigne will helm the avant-garde six-course menu. The dinner will be expertly paired by sought-after expressions from Château Smith-Haut-Lafitte as well as nominees of the Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019. The fine dining establishment sits within the sprawling vineyard of Les Sources de Caudalie in Bordeaux, France, giving guests an inkling of how chef Masse integrates his produce-driven French fare with oenology.

The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival from 10 to 12 October 2019



Roast Duck Breast with Berries, Sauce Royale and Oxalis is one of the dishes that can be enjoyed at The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival from RWS celebrity chef restaurant, table65.



The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival is bringing in Lobsterdamus, a cult food stand from Los Angeles best known for its Lobster Fries, Lobster Nachos and Grilled Lobster with Garlic Noodles.



Get ready for a gastronomic experience to remember as The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival will be held in tandem with the Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019 from 10 to 12 October at the Resorts World Ballroom. Over 400 wines, including Wine Pinnacle Awards nominees, will be showcased and available for sampling on festival grounds and during masterclasses.

Sip on the 2017 *Medici Ermete*, *Phermento Metodo Ancestrale Lambrusco di Modena*, *Emilia-Romagna, Italy* produced using the Ancestral method where secondary fermentation occurs in the bottle over at Wine List Asia's booth. Or discover the award-winning winery *Frescobaldi* which has over 700 years of history in Tuscan wines at Cellarmaster Wines. Another highlight will be 1855 The Bottle Shop + Vinicole Asia, who will be presenting an exclusive preview of three award-winning wines, all of which are making their first appearance in Singapore at the festival. The list includes cult favourite 2017 *The Prisoner Wine Co.*, *The Prisoner, Napa Valley, USA*, a Napa Valley Red Blend, 2017 *Charles Smith Wines, Kung Fu Girl Riesling, Columbia Valley, USA*, a 100% Riesling made to pair with Asian cuisine, and 2015 *Castello di Monsanto, Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG, Tuscany, Italy*. All three wines have ranked thrice in Wine Spectator's Top 100 Wines of The Year. The festival will also have a special Japanese zone featuring reputable sake breweries from different parts of Japan.

As great wines and sake are best accompanied by great food, a smorgasbord of festival exclusive dishes from RWS celebrity chef restaurants, such as table65, Fratelli Trattoria and TEPPAN by Chef Yonemura will be in store, along with a first-in-Singapore pop-up dining concept, Los Angeles' cult Lobsterdamus known for their grilled wild-caught Maine lobsters. Visitors can also enjoy their

newfound wines with gourmet cured meats and cheese from Euraco Foods, or stock up on Riedel crystal glassware or a professional wine cabinet from Liebherr for their growing collection.

Wine connoisseurs and aspiring wine aficionados can look forward to the series of masterclasses on 11 and 12 October 2019. The Wine Committee will take attendees through topics, such as Tuscan wines, the varietals unique to Japan and Spain and the difference between new and old-world wines. Jeannie Cho Lee MW will even go deep into the effects of terroir through a collection of Pinot Noirs from around the world. Each masterclass is ticketed and limited to 25 per class.

Entry to the festival on 10 October is exclusively for RWS members and members of the trade who have pre-registered on www.thegreatfestival.sg. For public, tickets for 11 and 12 October are now on sale (from S\$60 per person) with special rates for Mastercard card holders (early bird Mastercard 1-for-1 Standard Pass at S\$60 for 2 persons and the Mastercard Premium Pass for 2 persons at S\$134) and RWS Invites members (from S\$42 per person) at www.thegreatfestival.sg.

The Harvest on 11 October 2019

Besides rubbing shoulders with luminaries of the wine profession, the Wine Pinnacle Awards and The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival will also provide a prized platform for members of the trade in Southeast Asia to build their technical expertise at The Harvest. Taking place on 11 October 2019 from 12.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m., the talented five making up the Wine Pinnacle Awards Committee will collectively delve into their topics of expertise. Oz Clarke (UK) will share about global wine and spirits trends. Kenichi Ohashi MW (Japan) will present wine pairing tips for Asian cuisine with Jeannie Cho Lee MW, while Andreas Larsson (Sweden) and Doug Frost MW/MS (USA) will divulge tips and tricks in pairing wines with Western cuisine. The Harvest is an invite-only event.

- End -

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ABOUT RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), Asia's premium lifestyle destination resort, is located on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, RWS is home to world-class attractions including Universal Studios Singapore, S.E.A. Aquarium, the Maritime Experiential Museum, Dolphin Island and Adventure Cove Waterpark. Complementing the adventure and adrenaline of its theme parks and attractions are six unique luxury hotels, the world-class Resorts World Convention Centre, a casino and the Asian flagship of a world-renowned destination spa. RWS offers award-winning dining experiences and exciting cuisine from around the world across its many renowned celebrity chef restaurants, establishing itself as a key player in Singapore's vibrant and diverse dining scene and a leading gourmet destination in Asia for epicureans. The integrated resort also offers world-class entertainment, from original resident productions to concerts and public shows such as Crane Dance and Lake of Dreams. RWS has been named "Best Integrated Resort" since 2011 for eight consecutive years at the TTG Travel Awards which recognises the best of Asia-Pacific's travel industry.

RWS is wholly owned by Genting Singapore, a company of the Genting Group. For more information, please visit www.rwsentosa.com.

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ABOUT WINE PINNACLE AWARDS 2019

Organised by Genting Singapore and held at Resorts World Sentosa, the Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019 is a celebration of the world's finest wines. The inaugural event honours mature, ready-to-drink as well as young, recently-released bottles, with a strong focus on current wine trends. Shaping up to be the premium wine event for connoisseurs and beginners in Southeast Asia, it is also the gathering of some of the world's leaders when it comes to oenology. For more information, please visit www.winepinnacle.com.

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EDITORS' NOTES

1. High resolution photographs can be downloaded from link: <https://app.box.com/s/g8829yo364w573ka5cb3e9zdkbda90tw>
2. All photographs are to be attributed to Resorts World Sentosa (圣淘沙名胜世界) unless otherwise stated.

WINE PINNACLE AWARDS AND THE GREAT WINE & DINE FESTIVAL FACT SHEET

Date, operating hours and address:

The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival Preview:

Resorts World Ballroom (West)
10 October 2019, Thursday @ 3pm – 10pm (Trade, RWS Members and media only)

Wine Pinnacle Awards 2019 Gala Dinner:

Resorts World Ballroom (East)
10 October 2019, Thursday @ 7pm – 10pm (Invited guests only)

The Harvest:

Resorts World Ballroom (Central 1)
11 October 2019, Friday @ 12pm – 3pm (Trade and invited guests only)

The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival:

Resorts World Ballroom (West)
11 October 2019, Friday @ 11am – 10pm (Ticketed only) and
12 October 2019, Saturday @ 11am – 10pm (Ticketed only)

*Resorts World Ballroom is located within Resorts World Convention Centre in Resorts World Sentosa (8 Sentosa Gateway, Sentosa Island Singapore 098269).

Ticket Prices:

Tickets are available for purchase on www.thegreatfestival.sg

Standard Pass

Prices: S\$60 (Web) and S\$42 (RWS Invites Members)
Mastercard Promo: S\$43 per person or S\$60 for 2 persons (Limited to 200 packages only)

- One day access to festival grounds
- One complimentary RWS Invites membership and 15 Invites\$
- One The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival wine cup
- One access to wine & sake samples
- One F&B pack

Premium Pass

Prices: S\$100 (Web) and S\$78 (RWS Invites Members)
Mastercard Promo: S\$79 per person or S\$134 for 2 persons (Limited to 200 packages only)

- One day access to festival grounds
- One complimentary RWS Invites membership & 40 Invites\$
- One The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival Riedel wine glass
- One access to wine & sake samples
- One access to VIP zone

Wine Masterclass

Prices: S\$170 (Web) and S\$138 (RWS Invites Members)
Mastercard Promo: S\$138

- Ticket to one wine masterclass
- One day access to festival grounds
- One complimentary RWS Invites membership and 15 Invites\$
- One The GREAT Wine & Dine Festival wine cup
- One access to wine & sake samples
- One F&B Pack

Masterclasses

Angra Wines & Spirits Presents Uncovering The Jewels of Tuscany Conducted by Andreas Larsson (Sommelier of the World (2007 ASI))

11 October 2019, Friday @ 3.00pm – 4.30pm

Venue: Resorts World Convention Centre, Level B2

Prices: S\$170 per person or S\$138 per person (Mastercard Cardholders/RWS Invites Members)

1855 The Bottle Shop & Vinicole Asia Present Discovering The World Of Pinot Noir Conducted by Jeannie Cho Lee MW

11 October 2019, Friday @ 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Venue: Resorts World Convention Centre, Level B2

Prices: S\$170 per person or S\$138 per person (Mastercard Cardholders/RWS Invites Members)

Ewineasia.com Presents Discovering Spain's Diverse Grapes Conducted by Doug Frost MW & MS

12 October 2019, Saturday @ 1.00pm – 2.30pm

Venue: Resorts World Convention Centre, Level B2

Prices: S\$170 per person or S\$138 per person (Mastercard Cardholders/RWS Invites Members)

Pop Up Wine Presents Comparing The Characteristics Of New World VS. Old World Wines Conducted by Oz Clarke (award-winning wine writer)

12 October 2019, Saturday @ 3.30pm – 5.00pm

Venue: Resorts World Convention Centre, Level B2

Prices: S\$170 per person or S\$138 per person (Mastercard Cardholders/RWS Invites Members)

Chateau Mercian Presents Exploring Japan's Indigenous Grape Varieties Conducted by Kenichi Ohashi MW

12 October 2019, Saturday @ 3.30pm – 5.00pm

Venue: Resorts World Convention Centre, Level B2

Prices: S\$170 per person or S\$138 per person (Mastercard Cardholders/RWS Invites Members)



ANNEX

WINE PINNACLE AWARDS 2019 TOP 5 NOMINEES

Best 1996 Vintage Bordeaux

- 1996 *Château Lafite Rothschild, Pauillac, France*
- 1996 *Château Latour, Pauillac, France*
- 1996 *Château Léoville-Las Cases, Grand Vin de Leoville, Saint-Julien, France*
- 1996 *Château Margaux, Margaux, France*
- 1996 *Pétrus, Pomerol, France*

Best 1999 Vintage Barolo

- 1999 *Bartolo Mascarello, Barolo DOCG, Piedmont, Italy*
- 1999 *Bruno Giacosa, Falletto Riserva - Falletto Vigna Le Rocche, Barolo DOCG, Italy*
- 1999 *Giacomo Conterno, Monfortino, Barolo Riserva DOCG, Italy*
- 1999 *Luciano Sandrone, Le Vigne, Barolo DOCG, Italy*
- 1999 *Poderi Aldo Conterno, Granbussia, Barolo Riserva DOCG, Italy*

Best 2002 Vintage Champagne

- 2002 *Krug, Clos du Mesnil Blanc de Blancs Brut, Champagne, France*
- 2002 *Louis Roederer, Cristal Brut Millesime, Champagne, France*
- 2002 *Pol Roger, Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill Brut, Champagne, France*
- 2002 *Salon, Cuvée 'S' Le Mesnil Blanc de Blancs, Champagne, France*
- 2002 *Taittinger, Comtes de Champagne Blanc de Blancs Brut, Champagne, France*

Best 2005 Vintage Burgundy Red

- 2005 *Domaine Armand Rousseau, Pere et Fils Chambertin Grand Cru, Côte de Nuits, France*
- 2005 *Domaine Comte Georges de Vogue, Musigny Grand Cru, Cuvée Vieilles Vignes, Côte de Nuits, France*
- 2005 *Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, La Tache Grand Cru Monopole, Côte de Nuits, France*
- 2005 *Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Romanee-Conti Grand Cru, Côte de Nuits, France*
- 2005 *Domaine Leroy, Musigny Grand Cru, Côte de Nuits, France*

Best 2005 Vintage Rioja/Ribera Del Duero

- 2005 *Dominio de Pingus, Pingus, Ribera del Duero, Spain*
- 2005 *La Rioja Alta S.A., Gran Reserva 890, Rioja DOCa, Spain*
- 2005 *R. Lopez de Heredia Vina Tondonia, Reserva, Rioja DOCa, Spain*
- 2005 *Vega Sicilia, Tinto Valbuena 5, Ribera del Duero, Spain*
- 2005 *Vega Sicilia, Unico Gran Reserva, Ribera del Duero, Spain*

Best 2007 Vintage Tuscan Red

- 2007 *Isole e Olena, Cepparello Toscana IGT, Tuscany, Italy*
- 2007 *Case Basse di Gianfranco Soldera, Toscana IGT – Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, Tuscany, Italy*
- 2007 *Masseto, Toscana IGT, Tuscany, Italy*
- 2007 *Ornellaia, Bolgheri Superiore Tuscany, Italy*
- 2007 *Tenuta San Guido, Sassicaia Bolgheri, Tuscany, Italy*

Best 2008 Vintage Australian Shiraz/Syrah

- *2008 Giaconda, Warner Vineyard Shiraz, Beechworth, Australia*
- *2008 Henschke, Hill of Grace Shiraz, Eden Valley, Australia*
- *2008 Jasper Hill, Georgia's Paddock Shiraz, HeathCôte, Australia*
- *2008 Penfolds, Grange, Australia*
- *2008 Wendouree, Shiraz Mataro, Claire Valley, Australia*

Best 2008 Vintage Burgundy White

- *2008 Domaine Coche-Dury, Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Côte de Beaune, France*
- *2008 Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Montrachet Grand Cru, Côte de Beaune, France*
- *2008 Domaine François Raveneau, Les Clos, Chablis Grand Cru, France*
- *2008 Domaine Leflaive, Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru, Côte de Beaune, France*
- *2008 Domaine Ramonet, Montrachet Grand Cru, Côte de Beaune, France*

Best 2009 Vintage Cabernet Based California Wine

- *2009 Château Montelena, The Montelena Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, USA*
- *2009 Diamond Creek, Volcanic Hill Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, USA*
- *2009 Screaming Eagle, Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, USA*
- *2009 Shafer Vineyards, Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap District, USA*
- *2009 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, Cask 23 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, USA*

Best Recent Release: New World Pinot Noir

- *Ata Rangi, Pinot Noir, Martinborough, New Zealand*
- *Bass Phillip, Premium Pinot Noir, Gippsland, Australia*
- *Burn Cottage, Pinot Noir, Central Otago, New Zealand*
- *Felton Road, Block 5 Pinot Noir, Bannockburn, New Zealand*
- *Tolpuddle Vineyard, Pinot Noir, Coal River Valley, Australia*

Best Recent Release: Non-Burgundy Chardonnay

- *Giaconda, Chardonnay, Beechworth, Australia*
- *Kumeu River, Coddington Chardonnay, Kumeu, New Zealand*
- *Kumeu River, Mate's Vineyard Chardonnay, Kumeu, New Zealand*
- *Leeuwin Estate, Art Series Chardonnay, Margaret River, Australia*
- *Penfolds, Yattarna Bin 144 Chardonnay, South Australia*

Best Recent Release: Non-Champagne Sparkling Wine

- *Domaine Carneros by Taittinger, Le Reve Blanc de Blancs Sparkling Brut, Napa Valley, USA*
- *Gusbourne Brut Reserve, Kent, England*
- *Nyetimber, Rose Sparkling, West Sussex, England*
- *Ridgeview, Grosvenor Blanc de Blancs Brut, England*
- *Roederer Estate, L'Ermitage, Anderson Valley, USA*

Best Recent Release: Sauvignon Blanc

- *Didier Dagenneau, Pouilly Fume Silex, Loire Valley, France*
- *Dog Point Vineyard, Section 94 Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand*
- *Domaine Gérard Boulay, Sancerre Chavignol, Loire Valley, France*
- *Domaine Vacheron, Sancerre Les Romains, Loire Valley, France*
- *Greywacke, Wild Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand*

Best Recent Release: South American Red

- *Achaval Ferrer, Finca Altamira Malbec, San Carlos, Argentina*
- *Almaviva, Puente Alto, Chile*
- *Catena Zapata, Nicolas Catena Zapata, Mendoza, Argentina*
- *Cheval des Andes, Terrazas de Los Andes, Mendoza, Argentina*
- *Sena, Aconcagua Valley, Chile*

Hidden Treasure: Australia

- *Grosset, Polish Hill Riesling, Clare Valley, Australia*
- *Jauma, McLaren Vale, Australia*
- *Stargazer, Chardonnay, Tasmania, Australia*
- *Thomas Wines, Hunter Valley, Australia*
- *Tyrrell's Wines, Vat 1 Semillon, Hunter Valley, Australia*

Hidden Treasure: Bordeaux

- *Château Grand Village, Blanc, Bordeaux, France*
- *Château Le Puy, Bordeaux, France*
- *Château Loudenne, Bordeaux, France*
- *Château Roc de Combe, Bordeaux, France*
- *Château Tertre Roteboeuf, Bordeaux, France*

Hidden Treasure: Burgundy

- *Bret Brothers, Saint-Veran Climat En Combe, Maconnais, France*
- *Domaine Didier Montchovet, Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune Rouge, Burgundy, France*
- *Domaine Mee Godard, Morgon Côte de Py, Beaujolais, France*
- *Domaine Moreau-Naudet, Chablis, Burgundy, France*
- *Mark Hasima, Burgundy, France*

Hidden Treasure: Piedmont

- *Cappellano, Piedmont, Italy*
- *Cavalier Lorenzo Accomasso, Piedmont, Italy*
- *G.D. Vajra, Langhe Nebbiolo, Piedmont, Italy*
- *G.D. Vajra, Petracine Langhe Riesling, Piedmont, Italy*
- *Poderi Aldo Conterno, Conca Tre Pile Barbera d'Alba, Piedmont, Italy*

Best Chinese Red

- *Ao Yun, Yunnan, China*
- *Grace Vineyard, Tasya's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Shanxi, China*
- *Helan Qing Xue, Jia Bei Lan Dry Red, Ningxia, China*
- *Silver Heights, Emma's Reserve, Ningxia, China*
- *Silver Heights, The Summit, Ningxia, China*

Best Organic/Natural Wine Of The Year

- *Domaine Jean Foillard Morgon, Côte du Py, Beaujolais, France*
- *Domaine Marcel Lapiere, Cuvée Marcel Lapiere, Beaujolais, France*
- *Domaine Sébastien Riffault, Sancerre Auksinis, Loire, France*
- *Foradori, Sgarzon Teroldego Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy*
- *Ochota Barrels, 186 Grenache, McLaren Vale, Australia*

Best Rose In The World

- *Château d'Esclans, Côtes de Provence Garrus Rose, France*
- *Domaine de la Mordorée, Tavel La Dame Rousse Rose, Rhône, France*
- *Domaine Tempier, Bandol Rose, Provence, France*
- *Domaines Ott, Château de Selle Côtes de Provence Cœur de Grain Rose, France*
- *Lopez de Heredia Vina Tondonia, Gran Reserva Rosado, Rioja DOCa, Spain*

Black Swan Of The Year (Most Thought Provoking Wine)

- *Arnot-Roberts, Sonoma Coast Syrah, California, USA*
- *Château Pierre-Bise, Savennieres Roches aux Moines, Loire, France*
- *Gravner, Anfora Pinot Grigio Venezia Giulia IGT, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy*
- *Luke Lambert, Syrah, Yarra Valley, Australia*
- *Radikon, Ribolla Gialla Venezia Giulia IGT, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy*

Best Friend Of The Earth (Most Environmentally-Conscious)

- *Isabelle Legeron MW, UK*
- *Jacques Néauport, France*
- *Lalou Bize-Leroy, Domaine Leroy, France*
- *Miguel Torres, Familia Torres, Spain*
- *Nicolas Joly, Château de la Roche aux Moines, France*

Best Young Winemaker Of The Year (Under 40)

- *Amélie Berthaut, Domaine Berthaut-Gerbet, France*
- *Donovan Rall, Rall Wines, South Africa*
- *Fernando Mora MW, Bodegas Frontonio, Spain*
- *Maxime Cheurlin, Domaine Georges Noellat, France*
- *Morgan Twain-Peterson MW, Bedrock Wine Co., USA*

Top Wine Influencer (Under 45)

- *Erwan Faiveley, Domaine Faiveley, France*
- *Madeline Puckette, Wine Folly, USA*
- *Olivier Berrouet, Pétrus, France*
- *Pascaline Lepeltier MS, Racines NY, USA*
- *Ronan Sayburn MS, United Kingdom*

Unsung Hero

- *Angiolino Maule, VinNatur, Italy*
- *Carlo Ferrini, Podere Giodo, Italy*
- *Eric Boissenot, Château les Vimières, France*
- *István Szepsy, Szepsy, Hungary*
- *Maxence Dulou, Ao Yun Vineyards, China*

Grand Jury Award

- *Nominees and Winner to be announced on 10 October 2019.*

**Note to Editors: The nominees are listed not in order of ranking but in alphabetical order. This list will also be published online at www.winepinnacle.com*

Quotes from Wine Pinnacle Awards Committee Members



"I am delighted to see that the inaugural Wine Pinnacle Awards has recognised an exciting list of top wines from around the world. The results are diverse and encompass major wine regions – from mature fine wines, to new exciting recent releases and hidden treasures; the results highlight the best wines from France, Italy, Australia, USA, China, Spain and South America. Finally, a wine competition with a panel of experienced jury members is awarding the very best wines and wineries based on quality and consistency rather than being restricted by wine submissions!" – Jeannie Cho Lee, MW

Brief Profile:

Jeannie Cho Lee is the first Asian Master of Wine and an award-winning author, television host, editor, wine critic, judge and educator. She has been a professor at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University where she helped to launch the Master of Science (MSc) in International Wine Management program since 2012. Recognized for her contributions to the food and drinks industry, Lee was selected as one of the top 100 most influential people in Hong Kong by the South China Morning Post and Debrett's in November 2015. She was named the 25th most powerful person in wine by Decanter magazine (UK) and was listed among the top 60 most influential people in wine by La Revue du Vin (France) in 2015 and won the International Vinalty Award (Italy) in 2009.



"I think "Black Swan of the Year" is a very intriguing category. In many wine competitions across the world, judges' ratings on a single wine can often be polarized toward the extremes. The same wine can receive poor evaluation from some judges while being highly acclaimed by others. In many cases, such wines are often given average ratings at best and hardly receive a strong reputation in the market. In this category, we would like to nominate these wines that have historically been hidden from the spotlight in competitions despite its immense popularity amongst some people." – Kenichi Ohashi, MW

Brief Profile:

Kenichi Ohashi is a Master of Wine and sake expert based in Tokyo, Japan. He is the third-generation owner of Yamajin Co. Ltd., a distribution company specialised in wine, sake and local spirits. He also owns a consultancy company, Red Bridge Co. Ltd. and is a

Director of Somersault Co. Ltd., the biggest business group of liquor retailers in Japan. He was awarded Personality of the Year 2016 at the International Wine Challenge. Ohashi has been certified as a Sake Expert Assessor, the highest qualification of National Research Institute of Brewing Japan, and is also the sake co-chairman of the International Wine Challenge.



“Organic and natural wines were once seen as a narrow band of inconsistent or even questionable wines. There is now a growing body of winemakers in every country seeking to craft wines with minimal inputs, firm in the belief that eschewing chemicals creates healthy vineyards and more flavorful wines. Environmental consciousness is no longer a luxury; many in the wine industry see it as the only way forward for a robust industry and a safe planet. The Wine Pinnacle Awards have identified those individuals and wines that exemplify such approaches, and that are inspiring a new generation of winemakers and consumers alike.” – Doug Frost, MS, MW

Brief Profile:

Doug Frost is a Master of Wine (MW) and Master Sommelier (MS) as well as an author and wine consultant based in Kansas City, Missouri. Frost is one of three individuals in the world to hold simultaneously the MW and MS titles. The Wine Spectator has bestowed the accolade of Master of Spirits on Frost. In 2006, Frost along with a few partners founded the Beverage Alcohol Resource (BAR), a spirits and cocktail educational organisation. Cheers Magazine selected BAR and its founders as Innovators of the Year for 2007. He was awarded Beverage Innovator of the Year 2009 by Cheers Magazine.



Photo credit: Keith Barnes Photography

“Wine Pinnacle Awards have asked the best palates right round the world for their views on the best-performing Bordeaux Estates, and have also asked them specifically about mature vintages now at their peak. We’ve done this with other wine categories too, and we believe no other Wine Awards take this approach. You’ll also find numerous other thrilling discoveries of hidden gems that don’t usually appear in a wine competition. The Wine Pinnacle Awards are like no other wine Awards.” – Oz Clarke

Brief Profile:

Oz Clarke is one of the world’s leading wine experts, whose formidable reputation is based on his extensive wine knowledge and accessible, no-nonsense approach.

His passion for the subject dates from his student days at Oxford University, where he won tasting competitions at a precociously early age. Since then, his tasting skills have won him an international reputation and he is acknowledged as having one of the finest palates of anyone writing about wine today. He brings a refreshingly unorthodox wit and directness to the subject and has won all the major wine writing awards both in the UK and the USA. Oz has written numerous books about wine and currently presents a weekly wine report on British prime time television.



*“Great wine needs time to reach its full potential. Therefore reassessing the great Champagnes from 2002 feels like the right time. Even if wine lovers always tend to say that “this is too young”, the extraordinary examples from this top notch vintage should display their greatness today, even if they’ll last much longer. All sparkling wines aren’t necessary from Champagne and it’s a very exciting time for lovers of bubbly as the ever increasing quality from England and California certainly belong in the top category.” – **Andreas Larsson***

Brief Profile:

Andreas Larsson is the Best Sommelier of the World (2007 ASI). He has a discerning palate and is a passionate wine lover. He is known not only for his incredible tasting abilities and vast knowledge, but also for his friendly and professional approach. He has a relaxed demeanor and is a highly sought-after taster, speaker and educator within the vast field of gastronomy, food, wine and other beverages. Despite his busy schedule, he still maintains his sommelier functions as the Wine Director at PM & Vänner, a renowned restaurant located in Växjö Sweden.