



The Wine Society
The Wine club you can Trust

MEDIA RELEASE
September 2008

YOUNG WINEMAKER FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

The Wine Society has announced the 10 finalists for the prestigious Young Winemaker of the Year Award 2008.

In a first for the awards, almost half of the finalists are from New Zealand. The competition only opened up to New Zealand winemakers last year when only two Kiwis made the top 10.

This year is also proving to be a coup for the South of Australia with all Australian finalists coming from either Victoria, South Australia or Tasmania.

The final 10 are:

- Stuart Marfell from Vavasour Wines - Marlborough, NZ
- Greg Clack from Chain of Ponds - Gumeracha, SA
- Malcolm Rees-Francis from Rockburn Wines – Central Otago, NZ
- Lucas Cowley from Auntsfield Estate - Blenheim, NZ
- Anna Pooley from Heemskerk Wines – South Hobart, TAS
- Angela Miranda from Orlando Wines – Barossa Valley, SA
- Matt Evans from De Vine Wines – Central Otago, NZ
- Greer Carland from Winemaking Tasmania - TAS
- Helen McCarthy from Taylors Wines – Clare Valley, SA
- Ben Haines from Mitchelton Wines – Nagambie, VIC

Throughout the next two months, the top two wines from each finalist will be judged by a panel of industry icons to decide The Wine Society Young Winemaker of the Year for 2008.

In addition, the final wines will be put to the test by The Wine Society members and some of the country's top sommeliers in a national road show to determine the Members' Choice and Sommeliers' Choice awards.

The winners for each category will be announced at the black tie gala awards dinner at the Westin Hotel in Sydney on 1 November.

For more information visit www.winesociety.com.au

Ends

Notes to editor: The Wine Society Young Winemaker of the Year Award is open to all Australian and New Zealand winemakers under 30 who are primarily responsible for the creation of the wine. The aim of the award is to recognise the importance and best efforts of young people in the wine industry and distinguish themselves as the winemakers of the future.

The Wine Society was established in 1946 when Dr. Gilbert Phillips and a group of wine loving friends shared a collective vision and passion to purchase and distribute Australian table wine. Today that vision continues and The Wine Society boasts almost 60,000 members across Australia.

For further media information, please contact Helen Lear at Stellar* Concepts on (02) 9281 8000 or e-mail Helen@stellar.net.au