



CHEERS!

2017 CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

The 39th Vancouver International Wine Festival proudly honoured the people and venues that make such a significant contribution to the B.C. wine and food culture. The following awards were presented at the 14th Annual Awards Lunch featuring Wines of Canada on Friday, February 17.

Presented by



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SPIRITED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL



Harry McWatters

The annual Spirited Industry Professional Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the sales, service or promotion of wine in British Columbia.

Harry is a 49-year veteran of the British Columbia wine industry. He founded Sumac Ridge Estate Winery, BC's first estate winery in 1980 and See Ya Later Ranch Estate winery in 1995. After selling both operations to Vincor Canada in 2000, he remained President of Sumac Ridge and See Ya Later Ranch and was a Vice President of Vincor Canada

until he "retired" in 2008. Since then he has established the Vintage Consulting Group, launched TIME Estate Winery and the McWatters Collection and co-developed ENCORE Vineyards Ltd. Harry is the founding chair of the BC Wine Institute, VQA Canada, the BC Wine Information Society, and the BC Hospitality Foundation. In 2003 Harry received the prestigious Order of British Columbia for his services to the BC wine industry.

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WINE PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017

Presented by



These awards pay tribute to restaurateurs who have committed to producing an original and creative wine program. Participating restaurants received careful consideration of their wine program by some of the finest, most professional judges in Western Canada.

Our judges: Tom Doughty, Jay Jones, DJ Kearney, Iain Philip, Treve Ring

METRO VANCOUVER

Platinum

Blue Water Cafe + Raw Bar
Burdock & Co.
Chambar
CinCin Ristorante + Bar
Hawthorn Restaurant
Vij's

Gold

L'Abattoir
Gotham Steakhouse & Bar
Joe Fortes Seafood & Chop House
Latab – Best New Entry
Mission
Nightingale
Savio Volpe
Zest Japanese Cuisine

Silver

Ancora Waterfront Dining and Patio
AnnaLena
Boulevard Kitchen & Oyster Bar
Le Crocodile
Fable Kitchen
Forage
La Pentola
Provence Marinaside/The Wine Bar
West Restaurant

Bronze

Homer St. Cafe and Bar
My Shanti
PiDiGiN
Pourhouse Restaurant
Royal Dinette
The Stable House Bistro
Tableau Bar Bistro
Tramonto at River Rock Casino Resort
Wilbebest

Honourable Mention

Cibo Trattoria / Uva Wine Bar
LIFT Bar Grill View

WHISTLER

Gold

Alta Bistro

Silver

Araxi Restaurant + Oyster Bar

Bronze

Basalt Wine + Salumeria

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Silver

Café Brio (Victoria)

Bronze

OLO Restaurant (Victoria)

Honourable Mention

10 Acres Kitchen (Victoria)
Pacific Prime Restaurant & Lounge,
The Beach Club Resort (Parksville)
Unsworth Restaurant (Mill Bay)

BC INTERIOR

Gold

Emerald Lake Lodge (Field)

ALBERTA

Platinum

Cilantro (Calgary)
Divino Wine & Cheese Bistro (Calgary)

Gold

Buffalo Mountain Lodge (Banff)
Deer Lodge (Lake Louise)
The Lake House (Calgary)
Vin Room West (Calgary)

Silver

Vin Room Mission (Calgary)

SOMMELIER OF THE YEAR



Shane Taylor, *wine director, CinCin Ristorante + Bar*

The Sommelier of the Year Award recognizes working sommeliers who consistently demonstrate an outstanding passion for marrying wine with food and a dedication to exceptional service. Shane Taylor was selected through a hands-on competition organized by the BC Chapter of the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers. As Sommelier of the Year, Shane received two Delta Air Lines vouchers valued at \$2,000 USD from the festival.

A native of PEI, Shane is a graduate of the Atlantic Tourism and Hospitality Institute, holds the WSET Diploma in Wine and Spirits, and recently qualified as Advanced Sommelier from the London-based Court of Master Sommeliers. He worked at the Relais Gourmand White Barn Inn in Kennebunkport, Maine, the Michelin-starred Glenapp Castle and Chapter One in the UK, before moving to Canada in 2005 to join Araxi and the Toptable team.

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A collection of Platinum award-winners in the Wine Program Excellence Awards. Photo: Christine McAvoiy

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40TH VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL WINE FESTIVAL

February 24-March 4, 2018

Theme countries Portugal and Spain

