

Feb 24–Mar 3, 2024

DISCOVER ITALY

# The Wine World Was Here

## 2024 Celebrating Excellence Award Winners

The 45<sup>th</sup> Vancouver International Wine Festival proudly honoured the people and places that make such a significant contribution to the B.C. wine and food culture. The following awards were presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Lunch Featuring Italy, presented by ContainerWorld, on Friday, March 1.



Chris Turyk (Judge), Reverie Beall (AnnaLena), Chris Rielly (Hawksworth, Nightingale), Franco Michienzi (Elisa), DJ Kearney (Judge), Colin Davidson (The Courtney Room), Andrew Forsyth (L'Abattoir), Calen Macdonald (Blue Water Cafe)



### SPIRITED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL

**Tim Pawsey,**  
Wine Writer

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.

Tim has been covering the food and wine revolution for about 20 kilos. His hallmark is seeking out and recommending value wines from BC and around the world that offer quality at every level. He also scopes out noteworthy restaurants that live up to their promises and often over deliver. Readers depend on his *Hired Belly* for his "Belly's Best" and "Belly's Budget Best" picks to help them find the right wine for the occasion. For several decades, Tim has been a columnist in local newspapers, and he contributes to several other publications, including *BCL Taste* magazine, *Quench*, *Vitis BC* and *Montecristo*. He is a frequent judge for wine competitions and was a founding judge of the BC Lieutenant Governor's Awards for Excellence in Wine. Tim is a founding member and a former director of the British Columbia Hospitality Foundation.

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### SOMMELIER OF THE YEAR

**Ian Casterton,**  
Key Accounts Manager,  
Andrew Peller Limited

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. Ian Casterton was selected through a hands-on competition organized by the BC Chapter of the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers. As Sommelier of the Year, Ian receives two Delta Air Lines vouchers valued at \$2,000 USD from the festival.

Ian's love of wine transcends traditional industry roles. During the last 12 spirited years, Ian has worked with import agencies, fine dining restaurants and with a helicopter skiing resort. Currently, he represents Andrew Peller Limited, selling BC wine to Western Canadian restaurant groups. Most importantly, he loves to share his passion for all things vinus to the nerdy, the interested and the thirsty. Ian is presently pursuing the Master of Wine designation.

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### TERRY THRELFALL SCHOLARSHIP

**Dawn Schultz,**  
Consultant,  
Designer Grapes  
Consulting

The Vancouver International Wine Festival is pleased to partner with the BC Hospitality Foundation, the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers and the Threlfall family on a scholarship in the name of our beloved friend and colleague, Terry Threlfall, who passed away suddenly in October 2020. The scholarship is awarded to a candidate seeking to make a difference in mentorship and leadership in the British Columbia wine trade.

Dawn has spent more than two decades expanding her knowledge and skills in the food and beverage industry. Over the span of her career, she has gained a broad range of experience – including fine dining training and professional sake making. Her exposure to a wide variety of service and clientele has instilled a passion to learn more about the industry and pass that knowledge on to the public and colleagues.

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### WINE EXCELLENCE PROGRAM WINNERS

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, DJ Kearney, William Mulholland, Chris Turyk, and Emily Walker

#### METRO VANCOUVER

- Platinum**
- L'Abattoir
- AnnaLena
- Blue Water Cafe + Raw Bar
- Elisa
- Hawksworth Restaurant
- Nightingale Restaurant
- Gold**
- Bar Gobo
- Botanist
- Burdock & Co
- Chambar
- CinCin Ristorante + Bar
- Dachi
- Elephant
- Mott 32
- Savio Volpe
- Yuwa Japanese Cuisine

- Silver**
- Published on Main
- Tap Restaurant
- Tutto Restaurant & Bar
- Bronze**
- Acquafarina
- Forage
- The One Sixty
- Wildlight Kitchen + Bar
- Honourable Mention**
- Anh and Chi
- Ancora Waterfront Dining and Patio, Ambleside
- Ancora Waterfront Dining and Patio, False Creek

#### WHISTLER

- Gold**
- Alta Bistro
- Bar Oso
- Il Caminetto
- Silver**
- Wild Blue Restaurant + Bar
- Bronze**
- Quattro Restaurant
- Whistler

#### VANCOUVER ISLAND

- Platinum**
- The Courtney Room
- Gold**
- Marilena Cafe & Wine Bar (Best New Entry)
- Silver**
- The Farmer's Daughter
- Bronze**
- Boom + Batten

#### ALBERTA

- Gold**
  - RGE RD (Edmonton)
  - Vin Room YYC Airport (Calgary)
  - Bookmark
- [vanwinefest.ca/tradedays/2024-wine-program-excellence-awards](http://vanwinefest.ca/tradedays/2024-wine-program-excellence-awards) for your guide to restaurants with great wine programs.



**46<sup>th</sup> VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL WINE FESTIVAL**  
FEB 22-MAR 2, 2025  
FEATURING USA

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