



INSTITUTE OF MASTERS OF WINE WELCOMES NEW SUPPORTER, THE ESTERHÁZY FOUNDATION

London, 25th September 2009

The Institute of Masters of Wine is delighted to welcome the Esterházy Foundation as a Major Supporter. This generous funding will contribute to the Institute's education programme around the world.

Dr Josef Schuller MW, Chairman of the Institute of Masters of Wine, said, "The Esterházy family has a long history of supporting excellence in music, arts, culture and wine, and I am extremely happy to welcome the Esterházy Foundation as a new supporter."

The Esterházy Foundation arose from the Austrian holdings of the Esterházy family, princes of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It includes forestry, property and land management, and a winery in Burgenland. The cultural section maintains the family's historic properties and art works and invests in young, promising artists across all forms of culture.

Elisabeth Kamper, Managing Director of the Esterházy Winery, commented, "The Esterházy family is very proud to become a supporter of the Institute and to appear again on the international wine stage."

At a reception held to celebrate the new relationship at the Austrian Ambassador's residence in London guests enjoyed a Haydn recital and a buffet dinner prepared by Esterházy's winery chef.

Enquiries

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Notes for Editors

The Institute of Masters of Wine is a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting excellence in the wine trade. Founded in London in 1955, the Institute now has 280 members, based in 23 countries throughout the world. 'Master of Wine' is both a qualification and a title, usually abbreviated to 'MW' following a member's name. The Institute's education programme and examination process encourage a cross-disciplinary approach to understanding wine at the highest level.

The Institute holds annual examinations in three locations: London, Napa and Sydney. These comprise three practical papers, each with 12 wines (all tasted blind), and four essay papers, taken over a four-day period. Candidates are required to assess and identify wines of varying quality levels from all over the world. For the theory papers candidates need to demonstrate knowledge of a wide range of subjects, including winemaking, grape growing, business and social issues. Students must also complete a 10,000-word dissertation on a subject of their choice.

In addition to the education programme, the Institute and its members organise events of professional interest to the wine trade around the world, including a symposium every four years. The Institute's next international symposium, with the theme *Forging Links*, will take place from 24th to 27th June, 2010, in Bordeaux (www.mwsymposium.com).

More information about the Institute and its activities, including full biographies and contact details of members can be found on the website www.mastersofwine.org.