



THE INSTITUTE OF  
MASTERS *of* WINE

## **Two New Masters of Wine Announced**

### ***First MW in Japan & Fourth MW in Canada***

The Institute of Masters of Wine is delighted to announce that Ned Goodwin and Rhys Pender are the first new Masters of Wine in 2010. Ned is the first Master of Wine resident in Japan while Rhys is the fourth in Canada.

The confirmation comes after both successfully completed their dissertations, the third and final element of the Masters of Wine Examination, and brings the total number of Masters of Wine in the world to 281, who are now resident in 23 different countries.

Ned Goodwin MW (41), is an Australian who has lived and worked in Japan for over a decade and is currently based in Tokyo. He is fluent in Japanese, and works closely with sommeliers and restaurants in Japan.

Rhys Pender MW (35) is also Australian and now lives in Canada in the Okanagan Valley, where he runs his own education and consultancy business.

Dr. Josef Schuller MW, Chairman of the Institute, said: “We are delighted to welcome Ned and Rhys as members of the global community of Masters of Wine. Both have demonstrated exceptional knowledge and ability in the art, science and business of wine. We look forward to the contribution they will make to the world of wine and to the Institute in the years ahead.”

Ned Goodwin MW said: “Relief is the optimal word to describe the way I feel for myself and for my wonderful and supportive family. MW has taught me a great deal of humility and objectivity while enabling me to engage with a disciplined, international and highly academic approach to wine. I have always enjoyed being a student and am extremely passionate about wine and its place in different cultures, including Japan. The MW reminds me why.”

Rhys Pender MW said: “Achieving the MW feels like a massive relief yet at the same time feels like it has opened a whole world of new adventures.”

Rhys and Ned will be formally inducted to the membership of the Institute at its annual awards ceremony and reception at Vintners’ Hall in London in November.

Ends (17.04.10)

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## **Notes to Editors & New MW Biographies**

Founded in 1955, The Institute of Masters of Wine is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting educational and professional excellence in the global wine trade.

The Institute has 281 members (Masters of Wine, normally abbreviated to MW after a member's name) based in 23 different countries. Masters of Wine are active in all aspects of the wine industry and include winemakers, importers, buyers, retailers, consultants, journalists, educators, sommeliers and senior executives.

More than 240 students from 24 countries are currently engaged in the Institute's education programme which encourages a cross-disciplinary approach to understanding wine and communicating that knowledge at the highest level and prepares students for the Masters of Wine Examination

The annual Masters of Wine Examination takes place concurrently in London, Napa (USA) and Sydney (Australia), over a four-day period, usually during the month of June. There are three practical papers, each with 12 wines. Candidates are required to blind taste and identify wines of varying quality levels and origins. In four theory papers, candidates need to demonstrate, through essays, knowledge of a wide range of subjects including winemaking, grape growing, business and social issues. Students must also write a 10,000-word dissertation on a subject of their choice. Only after passing all parts of the examination and dissertation can someone be admitted to the membership of the Institute, agree to abide by its Code of Conduct and use the title Master of Wine, or its abbreviated form MW.

In addition to its education and examination programmes, the Institute organises annual events which are open to its members, students, the wider wine trade and, usually, private individuals with a serious interest in wine. These events offer outstanding professional development opportunities and include tastings, seminars, debates, visits to wine producing regions and master classes with the world's leading wine producers.

The Institute's work around the world is generously supported by a number of corporate supporters, each of whom helps to fund a specific area of activity which is usually aligned

with their own corporate objectives. The Institute's principal supporters are AXA Millésimes and the Austrian Wine Marketing Board.

More information about the Institute and its activities, including biographies of Masters of Wine, can be found at the Institute's [www.mastersofwine.org](http://www.mastersofwine.org) website.

### **Ned Goodwin MW**

Born in London in April 1969, raised in Australia and educated in Tokyo and Paris, Ned Goodwin has chosen a path in wine that has encompassed restaurant work, consultancy, corporate experience as a buyer and event coordinator and work in the media, both print and television.

Since 2001, Ned has served as Wine-Director - educator, buyer and sommelier - for one of Asia's largest restaurant groups, Global Dining Japan; consultant for P.J. Group restaurants (Salt, WW etc.) and adviser to the Greek Embassy in Tokyo during the 2004 Olympics.

Before coming to Japan, Ned was one of three sommeliers at Veritas restaurant in Manhattan's Grammercy neighbourhood from 1998-2001. A Wine Spectator Grand Award winner, Veritas boasts one of the finest wine lists of any restaurant in the world. Ned has also worked at Les Juveniles in Paris and Michael's in Los Angeles as a sommelier. Over these years, private consultancy and events included those for the Australian Embassy in Paris and Ron Perlman and Harvey Weinstein in New York. Ned also hosted dinners for luminaries such as Laurence Faller of Alsace's Domaine Weinbach and Etienne de Montille of Domaine de la Montille in Burgundy.

Ned also had his own Japanese television show on wine, "Vintage" (2000), appeared as guest-lecturer on "Wine Marketing" at one of Japan's most prestigious universities: Keio (2002-2004), and has appeared in the New York Times, WINART, The Japan Times, Tokyo Calendar, Newsweek, Elle; on CNN; and has written for Wine Business International, Qantas Inflight and Metropolis magazines.

### **Rhys Pender MW**

Rhys is a wine educator, freelance wine writer, wine judge and consultant to the industry. Working in the wine trade since age 14, Rhys' career has included experience in the vineyard, cellar, wine retail, education and hospitality - providing knowledge in all facets of the business.

To ensure a full understanding of wine in its key context, with food, Rhys has also completed a professional culinary diploma. He has taught hundreds of wine classes for WSET®, Okanagan College and privately to wineries, restaurants and corporate groups. He consults to the industry on marketing, new winery development, wine evaluations, viticulture, business planning, food and wine pairing and staff training and sits on the board for the Okanagan Wine Festival Society as Judging Chair.

Rhys is a regular contributor on wine to publications Wine Access, Savour, Scout Magazine, CityFood, Oil & Gas Magazine and Montecristo. He has also recently launched

rhyspender.com to provide wine reviews and comment on the wine world. In 2008, Rhys was named by Western Living magazine as one of the “Top 40 Foodies Under 40” in Western Canada.

In 2009 Rhys and his wife Alishan planted a small 4 acre vineyard at their Cawston home to sweat out some of the calories associated with a life of food and wine.