



## **CERINA DE JONGH & FRANCOIS HAASBROEK WIN THE INSTITUTE OF MASTERS OF WINE CHAIRMAN'S SCHOLARSHIPS 2009**

LONDON 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008: The Institute of Masters of Wine is delighted to announce that Cerina de Jongh, of Seidelberg Wine Estates; and Francois Haasbroek, of Waterford Wine Estate, have co-won the 2009 Chairman's Scholarships. This scholarship is awarded annually at the discretion of the Chairman of the Institute, and provides the successful candidate with:

- three years Education Programme fees;
- up to two years' examination fees; and
- two tasting cases of wine per annum, delivered to the winner's home.

The Scholarship is normally awarded to one person, but due to the extremely high standard of the two candidates, the Chairman decided to share the funding between them for the first-year education and whoever achieves the best result during the first-year will receive the remaining funding in full for the rest of the scholarship.

**Cerina De Jongh** qualified at Elsenburg Agricultural College and was one of the top students of her year. She has worked at Seidelberg since 2002.

**Francois Haasbroek** graduated in viticulture and oenology from Stellenbosch University and has been winemaker at Waterford Estate since 2004.

**Dr. Josef Schuller MW**, Chairman of the Institute, said: "For the first time the Chairman's Scholarship has been given to more than one student and for the very good reason that both applicants were of very high standard. I am delighted to be in such a fortunate position and am looking forward to welcoming candidates of such calibre to the MW study programme."

**Clive Barlow MW**, Acting Executive Director, said: "It is a great pleasure to be able to congratulate Cerina and Francois on being awarded the Chairman's Scholarship in its new form. Both Cerina and Francois were very strong candidates and reflect the skills and knowledge to be found in South Africa. I wish them every success in their forthcoming studies for the Master of Wine qualification."

### **Enquiries:**

Institute of Masters of Wine

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*Note to editors and interested applicants:*

## **About the Institute of Masters of Wine**

The Institute of Masters of Wine was established in London, England, in 1953, since when over 2000 candidates have sat its rigorous examination in the art and science of wine. In 1991, the examination was held on the same days in the UK, Australia and the USA, a pattern that continues today.

There are currently 277 members of the Institute, from 22 different countries. Although membership was opened up to non-UK members for the first time only in 1987, 87 members now come from outside the UK. The vast majority of the students are now non-British, and the Education programme is run annually in Napa Valley, California; Melbourne, Australia; Rust, Austria; and Bordeaux, France.

The Master of Wine qualification is achieved by passing three parts of the examination:

- Theory, comprising four three-hour question papers on viticulture, winemaking, the business of wine and contemporary issues
- Practical, comprising three 12-wine blind tastings of a range of international wines which are assessed for variety, origin, quality and style
- a 10,000 word Dissertation on a subject selected by the candidate, relevant to the international wine industry

Candidates come from all areas of the wine industry. The majority are active in a commercial capacity, as wholesalers, importers or retailers, from major multi-nationals to independent merchants. A growing number are involved directly with winemaking, while other occupations include journalism, public relations, the hospitality industry and wine education.

## **Application for the Master of Wine Education Programme**

The information pack can be obtained either by visiting the Institute's website or by contacting the education manager. Prospective students are expected to have either the WSET Diploma or a bachelor or higher level degree in viticulture, oenology or wine business along with at least five years of professional experience in the wine industry. Application for the education programme is in the form of a tasting and an essay, which are to be submitted every year between early August and mid-September. Register your interest by contacting the education manager at [peter@mastersofwine.org](mailto:peter@mastersofwine.org).