



**THE INSTITUTE OF MASTERS OF WINE  
ANNOUNCES THE WINNER OF  
THE CHAMPAGNE TRINITY SCHOLARSHIP**

*London (UK) and the Napa Valley (US), 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008:*

The Institute of Masters of Wine is delighted to announce that Nile Zacherle is the winner of the Champagne Trinity Scholarship. This scholarship, selected by essay, will enable Nile to make two consecutive trips to the Champagne region, one during vintage and another during the blending of the *vins clairs* in the spring. Nile will have the opportunity to gain a unique insight into the Champagne industry from the perspective of three family-owned Champagne houses: Bollinger, Pol Roger and Louis Roederer.

Nile, 36, lives in Calistago, California. He is co-owner of Lava Vineyards and also works as a consulting winemaker for SE Chase Cellars.

On behalf of the sponsoring houses **Charles King**, managing director of Maisons Marques et Domaines, UK subsidiary of Champagne Louis Roederer said” The Trinity houses were unanimous in our choice of Nile as author of an authoritative essay on the potential effects of global warming on the style of our Champagnes and we are delighted to welcome him when his visits take place.”

**Siobhan Turner**, Executive Director of the Institute, said: “I am thrilled for Nile. It will be a brilliant opportunity for him to enhance his understanding of the champagne industry as well as the start of a life-long affair with champagne. We are indebted to the continued generosity of the three family-owned Champagne houses.”

*Note to interested applicants:*

Application forms for the Institute's Education Programme will be available from July 2008. Interested applicants should in the first instance contact Peter Csizmadia-Honigh, the Education Manager, to obtain an application form and discuss any questions they may have.

*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 264 members of the Institute, from 22 different countries. Although membership was opened up to non-UK members for the first time only in 1987, 85 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.

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