



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**PN07 attracts top wine producers, commentators, chefs & sommeliers**

Some of the world's leading wine producers, commentators, chefs and sommeliers are heading to Pinot Noir 2007.

The four-day event being held in Wellington, New Zealand between 29 January and 1 February 2007 is expected to be the largest in-country event of its type ever held by the New Zealand wine industry.

Pinot Noir 2007 Board Chairman Steve Smith says the event is a must-have on the calendar of anyone with a love of, or involvement with, Pinot Noir.

"We have some fantastic speakers and panelists confirmed on the programme," says Steve, "including Andrea Immer (MS), one of the United States leading wine educators and one of only 14 women in the world to have been appointed Master Sommelier by the prestigious Court of Master Sommeliers.

"Another Master Sommelier on the programme is Evan Goldstein, also from the US. He was one of the youngest people ever to pass the MS exam and is one of only 85 active Master Sommeliers in the world.

"Jerry Jones, Sommelier at Sydney's Tetsuya's is joining us – Tetsuya's was recently voted Australia's best restaurant and the fourth best restaurant in the world in the UK's Restaurant Magazine.

"We've also got Brad Farmerie, Executive Chef at New York's 'Public' restaurant on the programme; Joelle Marti Baron, Sommelier at London's Great Eastern Hotel, and Ronn Weigand – the first person in the world to hold both the titles Master of Wine and Master Sommelier.

“They and the other more than 30 international and national speakers and panelists we have on the programme will make for a fun, stimulating four days of wine and food.”

Other speakers and panelists include:

- **Allen Meadows**, the founder of Burghound.com
- Top UK wine writer, judge and commentator **Matthew Jukes**
- The French master of soil, **Claude Bourguignon**
- **Jacques Ladiere** of Maison Louis Jadot, arguably Burgundy’s most prestigious negociant and producer
- **Andrew Caillard MW**, specialist wine auctioneer and author
- **Gina Gallo**, winemaker at Gallo Vineyards in California
- **Poh Tiong**, publisher of The Wine Review, South-East Asia’s oldest wine magazine
- **Michel Bettane**, France’s most respected and prominent wine writer
- **Monty Waldin**, one of the world’s leading authorities on biodynamic and organic viticulture and winemaking
- **Anthony Dias Blue**, Wine and Spirits Editor for Bon Appetit and contributing writer for Wine Spectator and
- **Nick Goldschmidt**, Executive Winemaker for California’s Beam Wine Estates

Steve Smith says that as plantings of New Zealand Pinot Noir have become a larger share of our vineyards, so too has the need to look at innovative and compelling ways to increase its profile to a discerning worldwide audience.

“Early registrations show we are attracting some very influential trade, media and connoisseurs, and together with the 100 New Zealand Pinot producers registered to attend, Pinot Noir 2007 is shaping up to be a truly memorable event.”

**For further information please contact:**

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