

## PRESS RELEASE

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### MUNDUS VINI Spring Tasting 2017:

**Nearly 2,500 wines received awards for their excellent quality // Record number of entries for the 20th anniversary // High-calibre awards ceremony at the world's leading trade fair, the Pro-Wein in Düsseldorf**

The Spring Tasting of the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI came to a close at the end of February 2017 after presenting the Grand Gold medal 33 times, Gold 1,043 times and Silver 1,392 times. Nearly 200 international wine experts from 44 countries spent the four days critically judging almost 6,200 wines from more than 150 wine growing regions all over the world, before then honouring the best of them with the highly coveted MUNDUS VINI medals. This was the highest number of wines from all over the world ever tasted at MUNDUS VINI.

At this year's unofficial country competition, the Spanish wine producers received the highest number of medals of 486, irrefutably proving their high quality; they were closely followed by Italy with 484 medals, France with 337, and Portugal with 302 as well as Germany with 285 medals.

At the 20th anniversary event of MUNDUS VINI, which is regarded all over the world as one of the leading competitions for sparkling, still and liqueur wines, wines from abroad also received 275 medals, while those of less well-known origins such as Armenia, Mexico, Russia or China appealed for their excellent qualities.

Beside the traditional European wine growing countries, several high quality wines from Australia (70 medals), South Africa (61), Chile (47) and Argentina (45) were awarded at the Spring Tasting 2017. Only the best 40 percent of submitted wines receive medals, which makes these awards even more valuable and meaningful.

Most of the Grand Gold medals, once again decidedly rare at less than one percent and only awarded to the very best wines, went to Portugal (10) and Italy (7), with a further 5 Grand Gold medals going to French wineries as well as 3 to Spain. The top wines from Germany and the United States of America received two Grand Gold awards each. Chile, New Zealand, Luxembourg and Mexico also received one Grand Gold.

The following wineries were honoured this competition for the best collections, i.e. the winery with the highest overall results in the competition:

Best producer Germany: Georg Müller Stiftung, Rheingau

Best cooperative Germany: Divino Nordheim Thüngersheim, Franconia

Best producer Italy: Farnese Vini

Best producer Spain: Gonzalez Byass

Best producer France: Les Domaines Paul Mas

Best producer Portugal: Sogrape Vinhos

Best producer Australia: Kilikanoon Wines

Best producer South Africa: DGB PTY

Schlumberger, Meckenheim, was named best importer (in Germany), with its wines receiving a total of 6 Gold and 6 Silver.

In addition to the highly coveted Silver, Gold and Grand Gold medals, best producer and best importer awards, MUNDUS VINI also presents the special "Best of Show" to the best wine in a category. MUNDUS VINI presented a total of 97 special awards at the Spring Tasting, such as the "Best of Show Champagne Vintag" for a 2002 Piper-Heidsieck Rare, and the "Best of Show Port Vintage" for a Barros Porto Colheita 1974.

About 600 award-winning wines of the MUNDUS VINI Spring Tasting will be presented to the trade audience at the world's largest wine trade fair, the ProWein in Düsseldorf, 19-21 March 2017, at the MUNDUS VINI Tasting Area. The wines with a special award will be honoured on the first day of the trade fair at the high-calibre presentation ceremony, and the certificates presented to the vintners by the Board of MUNDUS VINI in person.

The second part of the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI, the Summer Tasting, will take place at the end of August 2017. Wines that had not yet been bottled at the beginning of the year will be tasted and assessed at this event.

MUNDUS VINI was founded 16 years ago by the Meininger Verlag, and from the beginning has been one of the most important wine competitions in the world.

You can now find all of the results of the Spring Tasting at MEININGER ONLINE at <https://www.meininger.de/en/mundus-vini/results>

#### **About the MEININGER VERLAG:**

The publishing house MEININGER VERLAG was established in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse in 1903. One of Germany's oldest specialist publishing houses, it is now being run by the fourth generation of the same family. The company specialises in publications for the wine and beverages industry. The company also organises trade fairs, industry events and conventions.

The Meininger publishing house has successfully made a name for itself internationally with the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI, which has more than 10,000 wine submissions every year. Furthermore, the media house also stages other wine competitions, such as the Best of Riesling, Meiningers Rotweinpreis (for German red wines only) and Meiningers Deutscher Sektpreis (for German sparkling wines).

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