PRESS RELEASE

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The Störtebeker Braumanufaktur is the National Craft Brewer of the Year // The International Craft Brewer of the Year award went to Doppelleu Boxer from Switzerland // Noticeable increase in the number of entries for barrel-aged and alcohol-free beers

At a large award ceremony, Meininger held the significant and much coveted Meininger’s International Craft Beer Award for the sixth time. Guests from the international beer sector honoured the winners in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse’s Saalbau centre on 17 June.

Elation at the Störtebeker Braumanufaktur in Stralsund: the brewers from northern Germany swept the board at the sixth Meininger’s International Craft Beer Award, winning the top Platinum award twice as well as two Gold and Silver medals. With the best scores of all the beers entered from Germany, the Nordik-Porter – a 9.1 per cent ABV imperial porter with aromas of prune and German rum pot – can proudly call itself National Craft Beer of the Year 2019. On top of that, the Störtebeker Braumanufaktur managed to gain the highest average score for its award-winning beers and was consequently named National Craft Beer Brewer of the Year.

The Doppelleu Boxer brewery from Winterthur in Switzerland received the International Craft Brewer of the Year award. They were able to win two Platinum, three Gold and three Silver medals.

International Craft Beer of the Year went to the Samuel Adams Kosmic Mother Funk Grand Cru sour beer from the Boston Beer Company.

Among the most popular and hotly contested beer styles this year were barrel-aged and alcohol-free beers. Compared to last year, the number of entries rose considerably: barrel-aged beers by 44 per cent and alcohol-free beers by 24 per cent. The 90 judges from 13 different countries – made up of brewers and beer sommeliers or sensory experts from the fields of research and teaching – tested a total of 74 beer styles.
“The winners represent the large variety of beer. A genuine presentation of the craftsmanship and creative art of brewing”, said Benjamin Brouër, beer expert and board member of Meininger’s Craft Beer Award, at the award ceremony and handover of certificates to the winners.

A total of 1,229 beers from 31 countries competed at the sixth Meininger’s International Craft Beer Award. The competition grew once again in the sixth year of its existence, with an increase of 12 per cent.

International beers made up 33 per cent of the total number of competitors; in 2018 they made up only 23 per cent. Breweries from Switzerland, the Netherlands, France, Austria and Belgium did especially well. However, there were also entries from Taiwan, Argentina, China, Australia and Columbia.

You can find all the results and pictures from the competition and award ceremony for the Meininger's International Craft Beer Award 2019 at www.craft-beer-award.com. We will be pleased to send you images of the certificates being presented to the various breweries on request.

About Meininger's International Craft Beer Award:
Meininger's International Craft Beer Award made its debut in 2014, with 250 beers submitted. Five years later, the Award boasts more than 1,200 beers from all over the world. This makes Meininger's International Craft Beer Award one of the most important and most highly regarded beer competitions in the world today. With its tasting methodology, the competition sets new standards in terms of beer evaluation. Using the international 100-point scale, the beers are not measured against each other, but are instead judged individually on their appearance, aroma, taste and drinking experience by a six- or seven-strong judging panel. Furthermore, the Award also includes a sensory description of the aromas and attributes typical of each beer style. These descriptions are used to produce an aroma diagram that is not only easy to follow for brewers and consumers alike, but that also provides a first impression of the beer’s taste.

About the MEININGER VERLAG:
The publishing company Meininger Verlag was established in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse in 1903. One of Germany’s oldest specialist publishing companies, it is now being run in the fourth generation of the family by Andrea Meininger-Apfel and Christoph Meininger. In particular, the company specialises in the wine and beverage sector, with its wine portfolio making it the European market leader. Since 2015, the publishing house has been publishing the first Craft Beer magazine Meiningers Craft - das Magazin für Bierkultur. The Craft Beer trade fair Braukunst Live in Munich has been part of the Meininger Verlag portfolio since February 2019.

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