**PRESS RELEASE**

**Neustadt, 20 March 2023**

**The Grand International Wine Award Mundus Vini honours non-alcoholic wines for the first time**

Non-alcoholic wines are becoming more and more important and consumer interest is steadily increasing. For this reason, the renowned Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI was the first state-approved competition to deal intensively with these qualities at this year's spring tasting.

The winners of the MUNDUS VINI "non-alcoholic" – there were 29 gold and 54 silver awards from around 200 submissions – received their awards in person at ProWein in Düsseldorf. Most medals went to producers from Germany, followed by Spain, France, New Zealand and Italy.

Professor Ph.D. Ulrich Fischer from DLR Rheinland-Pfalz and Board Member of MUNDUS VINI prepared and led the new tasting topic "non-alcoholic". He notes: "My impression is that there are still big differences in quality. The best wines are characterized by varietal typicity, a good mouthfeel and delicate tannins such as a typical wine characteristic, which make non-alcoholic wines a real alternative. I assume that the market share of dealcoholized wines from currently around one percent will grow significantly in the next few years."

The special awards in the category "non-alcoholic" have been given to:

**Best Sparkling Rosé**

VITISECCO ROSÉ alkoholfreier Dry

Bähr Pfalztraube GmbH, Germany

**Best Sparkling White**

Blanc de Blancs ALKOHOLFREI

Julius Zotz KG, Germany

**Best Sparkling in retail markets**

ENGEL Riesling alcohol-free

Peter Riegel Weinimport GmbH, Germany

**Best Sauvignon Blanc**

Now Zero Sauvignon Blanc

Giesen Group, New Zealand

**Best Merlot**

Vinnuendo 0% Merlot

Mureda Alimentacion SL, Spain

**Best Riesling**

Freispiel ZIEMLICH GEIL alcohol-free

Weingärtner Stromberg-Zabergäu eG, Germany

**Best Pinot Blanc**

Breakaway Pinot Blanc entalkoholisiert

Winery Bergdolt-Reif & Nett, Germany

**Best white wine in retail markets**

Michel Schneider Riesling Non-alcoholic

Zimmermann-Graeff & Müller GmbH, Germany

**Best red wine in retail markets**

VINSENZA Rosso non-alcoholic, Spain

Peter Riegel Weinimport GmbH

**Best Producer**

Bähr Pfalztraube GmbH

**Best Merchant**

Peter Riegel Weinimport GmbH

All results of the MUNDUS VINI NON-ALCOHOLIC and the Spring Tasting 2023 can be found on MEININGER ONLINE (www.meininger.de/en).

**About MUNDUS VINI**

MUNDUS VINI was launched over 20 years ago and has been one of the most important wine competitions in the world since its inception. How important this competition has become in Germany and all over the world is proven by the more than 12,000 wines employed per year. These are evaluated according to the international 100-point scheme of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV). The wine price is carried out in spring and late summer. The initiator of the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI is Meininger Verlag.

At this year's Spring Tasting, dealcoholized wines were tasted and evaluated covertly for the first time at specially assembled jury tables.

In total, more than 7,500 submitted wines and sparkling wines were available for tasting by the expert jury at the Spring Tasting 2023, the best 3,029 were awarded Grand Gold, Gold and Silver.

**About MEININGER VERLAG**

Founded in 1903 in Neustadt an der Weinstraße, Meininger Verlag is one of the oldest German specialist publishers, run by Andrea Meininger-Apfel and Christoph Meininger in the fourth generation The
company specializes in particular in the wine and beverage industry. In addition to well-known magazines such as "Weinwirtschaft", "Meiningers Weinwelt", "Meiningers Sommelier" and "Der deutsche Weinbau", the company organises trade fairs, industry events and specialist congresses. In addition to the Grand International Wine Award MUNDUS VINI, the media company organizes other wine competitions such as MUNDUS VINI Nordic, Best of Riesling, Meiningers Deutscher Sektpreis, Meiningers Rotweinpreis and Meininger's International Rosé Award and Meiningers Deutscher Pinot-Preis.

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