vinetur

Unveiling the world's best sommeliers' selection

A new benchmark for wine excellence

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In an unprecedented gathering of global wine expertise, the inaugural World's Best Sommeliers' Selection has been unveiled, marking a significant milestone in the wine industry. Orchestrated by William Reed, the force behind The World's 50 Best Restaurants and World's Best Vineyards, this event assembled thirty of the planet's most esteemed sommeliers for a comprehensive tasting session. Held in the United Kingdom on January 16, this exclusive event aimed to curate a peer-recommended list of wines destined to influence on-trade professionals worldwide.

The sommeliers, hailing from four continents and representing 16 countries, are among the elite in the culinary world, many of whom have affiliations with establishments featured on the World's 50 Best Restaurants list. Their task was to evaluate a global collection of wines submitted by producers eager for the opportunity to have their creations assessed by such distinguished palates. Participants in the tasting included sommeliers from renowned restaurants like Disfrutar in Barcelona, Central and Kjolle in Lima, DiverXO in Madrid, The Jane in Antwerp, Quintonil in Mexico City, Alchemist in Copenhagen, and Gaggan Anand in Bangkok.

Jhonel Faelnar, Beverage Director at Atomix in New York, emphasized the unique value of the event, noting the importance of assembling sommeliers from diverse backgrounds to share perspectives and collectively evaluate the wines. This collaborative approach enriched the tasting process, fostering a shared understanding and appreciation of the wines.

Mireia Pujol-Busquets of Alta Alella, whose cava was selected for this year's list, expressed her excitement about the exposure to such influential tastemakers. The event offered a crucial platform for her wine, allowing for a thorough assessment by knowledgeable experts capable of comparing it against other outstanding wines.

Similarly, Stefan Doktor from Schloss Johannisberg in Germany and Lucas Barinc from Mahsarto d'Midin in Turkey shared their satisfaction with the opportunity to present their wines to such a respected audience. Doktor highlighted the chance to convey the narrative behind their wine, while Barinc appreciated the insights into how their Turkish wine fits into the global gastronomic landscape.

The World's Best Sommeliers' Selection 2024, complete with extensive tasting notes and food pairing recommendations, is now accessible. The accompanying website, worldsbestsommeliersselection.com, offers a novel resource for sommeliers seeking exceptional wines, allowing searches based on terroir, seasonality, and food pairings rather than traditional grape variety filters.

Andrew Reed, Managing Director Wine and Exhibitions at William Reed, expressed his delight at the addition of this innovative venture to their portfolio. He praised the event's unique approach to connecting winemakers with top sommeliers, emphasizing

the value of sharing the stories behind each wine. The feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, setting a high bar for the 2025 tasting.

The World's Best Sommeliers' Selection not only highlights the exceptional talent and insight of its participants but also serves as a testament to the evolving landscape of wine appreciation. By leveraging the expertise of world-class sommeliers, this event promises to shape the future of wine selection in the on-trade sector, offering a curated guide to outstanding wines that embody excellence and diversity.