

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3 September 2024

Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards Celebrates Excellence in 2024

Cape Town, September 2, 2024 – The 28th Annual Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards culminated in a spectacular celebration on August 30, 2024, at the Southern Sun Cape Sun in Cape Town. Located a short walk from the vibrant Bo Kaap, the CTICC, as well as Bree and Long Street, the Southern Sun Cape Sun combines city center convenience with contemporary comfort, offering all the amenities needed for business or leisure.

Established in 1997, the Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards were designed to offer South African producers the unique opportunity to have their wines evaluated by a panel of highly experienced international professionals. Over the years, this objective has remained steadfast: to support local wine and spirits producers targeting international markets. The expert international judges play a crucial role in assessing the global appeal of these products.

A Legacy of Excellence

Reflecting on the competition's journey, it's remarkable to think that 28 years have passed since Michelangelo's inception in 1997. What began as a modest initiative now stands as Africa's largest wine and spirits competition, and one of the most respected globally. The Michelangelo Awards remains unique on the continent, with all judges being hand-picked experts from five different continents. Since its inception, more than 288 individual judges from 56 countries have participated, ensuring a rigorous and diverse evaluation process. All entries are judged blind by panels of 4 judges, using the 100-point international judging system.

2024 Judging

The 2024 judging week took place from July 22nd to 26th at the stunning Lourensford Wine Estate in Somerset West, a setting befitting the grandeur of the Michelangelo Awards. This year, the tasting panel consisted of 24 judges—17 international and 7 South African experts—led by technical director Dr. Winnie Bowman. The commitment and expertise of the judges ensure that only the top third of entries are awarded medals, based on the 100-point international judging system.

Celebrating the Best of the Best

This year's Michelangelo Awards saw 1,555 entries, including 1,388 wines and 167 spirits, representing 7 countries. With 689 winners across 63 classes, the competition was fierce, particularly in the Sauvignon Blanc, Shiraz, Chardonnay, and Cabernet Sauvignon categories. Notably, the 2024 competition introduced two special Old Vine Project awards for the top-scoring certified white and red wines.

The Award Stats

This year, there are 3 Grand Prix Award Winners, 21 Trophy, 33 Platinum, 182 Double Gold, 391 Gold, and 83 silver.

All Award results are available via the Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards Website: www.maiwsa.co.za

The awards video is accessible via the Michelangelo YouTube Channel.

The Top Producer for 2024:

The 2024 Top Producer Trophy sponsored by Vinlog, powered by Kuehne & Nagel went to Durbanville Hills

The Grand Prix Trophies:

This year Michelangelo Awards allocated three Grand Prix trophies for the following classes: Dessert Wine Grand Prix, Spirits Grand Prix &, Wine Grand Prix.

- The Michelangelo Dessert Wine Grand Prix Trophy went to Botha Cellar for their 2016 Late Bottled Vintage
- The Michelangelo Spirits Grand Prix Trophy went to Three Ships Cape Ruby Cask Finish Aged 13 Years
- The Wine Grand Prix Trophy Sponsored by Southern Sun went to Kleine Zalze for their 2022 Family Reserve Sauvignon Blanc

A New Era of Elegance

In its commitment to evolving with the times, Michelangelo has unveiled a sleek, modern new look for its award stickers this year. These redesigned emblems reflect the contemporary elegance of the Michelangelo brand, ensuring that every bottle wearing its mark is adorned with style, class, and finesse. The stickers are available for download online for digital use.



Gratitude to Sponsors

The Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards extends heartfelt thanks to its esteemed sponsors for their unwavering support and collaboration. This year's sponsors include Southern Sun, Bidvest, FlySafair, Kuehne & Nagel, and African Cellar Suppliers. Their partnership is integral to the success of this event, and Michelangelo looks forward to celebrating alongside them.

VinLog

Powered by Kuehne+Nagel

FlySafair



ACS | AFRICAN
CELLAR
SUPPLIERS

Bidvest
Premier Lounge

Southern Sun

Join the Conversation

Michelangelo invites all participants and winners to share their achievements on social media using the official hashtags, #michelangeloawards and #southernsunwines. Follow and tag Michelangelo on Instagram and Facebook @michelangelo_awards_SA for a chance to be featured on its platforms.

Stay Informed for 2024 and Beyond...

Stay Informed with Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards. Don't miss out on exclusive news, exciting events, and important announcements. Sign up for our newsletter via our website to stay up to date with everything happening at the Michelangelo International Wine & Spirits Awards. By joining our mailing list, you'll be the first to know about special offers, upcoming events, and much more.

Visit www.maiwsa.co.za to subscribe.