

HANDPICKED™ WINES

Handpicked Wines takes the next step on global wine journey

30 September 2014

Handpicked Wines shared the next step on their wine journey at the launch of their first Collection and Single Vineyard wines at Olsen Irwin Gallery in Sydney on Monday, 22 September 2014.

During the course of the evening, guests were invited to come on a journey with an interactive tasting experience, named *The Art of Curation*.

The launch showcased the best of Handpicked's Yarra Valley and Mornington Peninsula chardonnay and pinot noir wines, alongside their Tasmanian and Central Otago pinot noirs.

Each wine, poured from customised hand-crafted decanters, was coupled with a full-scale artistic print of the label as well as accompanying sensory experiences to evoke a strong sense of place.

Handpicked Wines vision is to enable wine lovers to 'travel the world one wine at a time'. With recent investment in vineyards and winemaking facilities in the Yarra Valley, Mornington Peninsula and Barossa Valley, the launch showcased a number of award-winning wines made by industry veteran Gary Baldwin, who joined Handpicked as full time Chief Winemaker last year.

William Dong is the man with the Handpicked vision, buying into the business in 2003.

Over the past 11 years, William set about finding the wine styles he wanted to make from all parts of the world, using Australia as his base and branching out to France, Spain, Italy, Chile and New Zealand.

The appointment of Gary as Chief Winemaker has created a key juncture, allowing William and his team the opportunity to make incredible wines from around the world with real appeal to both the Australian and international markets.

Earlier in September, the Handpicked Collection Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir won the inaugural VIC ONE trophy, picked from amongst 100 top Victorian wines in the VIC100, and in August the 2013 Handpicked Capella Single Vineyard Pinot Noir won 'Best Mornington Peninsula Red Wine' at the 2014 International Cool Climate Wine Show.

This launch will be followed by the release of a range of premium shiraz and cabernet sauvignons in the coming months, as well as a Champagne made specifically for Handpicked in time for the Australian summer.

For further information or imagery please contact:

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New release wines

2013 Collection Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay, RRP \$40

This wine has all the hallmarks of a fine Mornington Peninsula Chardonnay and is a wonderful expression of *terroir*, vintage and variety. It has a pretty nose, displaying the aromas of white flowers, lemon and grapefruit citrus and alluring hints of white peach. A zesty and fresh wine defined by a fine, persistent line of acidity.

2013 Collection Yarra Valley Chardonnay, RRP \$40

Hints of spicy citrus characters on the nose integrate beautifully on the palate, with the stone fruit flavours and a creamy texture. The combination of Upper and Lower Yarra fruit is what gives this wine its balance of palate weight and length.

2013 Collection Yarra Valley Pinot Noir, RRP \$50

This is a dark spicy wine with complexity derived from various parcels of pinot noir grapes. It has savoury tones of olive, dried herbs and black cherry flavours. A wine with texture and weight, it partners equally well with rich French cuisine and spicy Asian foods.

2013 Collection Tasmania Pinot Noir, RRP \$50

A juicy wine that shows primary fruit flavours of raspberry, cherry and strawberry. The fruit concentration is balanced by fleshy, chalky long tannins. A combination of fruit from three vineyards in the Tamar Valley and one in the Pipers River area, it is a true expression of Tasmanian pinot noir.

2013 Collection Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir, RRP \$50

A beautiful mid-red colour, quite dark for pinot noir, is indicative of the power of fruit in this wine. There is also plenty of lifted cherry and spice aromas; a rich and full bodied pinot noir.

2013 Collection Central Otago Pinot Noir, RRP \$50

This single-vineyard wine exudes power and elegance. It has lifted cherry spice and red currant fruit aromas and a firm structure and beautiful balance of savouriness and tight acidity.

2013 Capella Single Vineyard Pinot Noir, RRP \$80

Vibrant red in colour, this wine has a perfumed, aromatic nose that makes it easily identifiable as Mornington Peninsula pinot noir. The palate is smooth and soft with loads of berry fruit flavour. This is the first single-vineyard wine off the young Capella vineyard.

Handpicked Wines Collection series are available at selected restaurants and independent bottle stores in NSW and Victoria, such as Bellevue Hill Bottle Shop (Sydney) and Prince Wine Store (Melbourne).