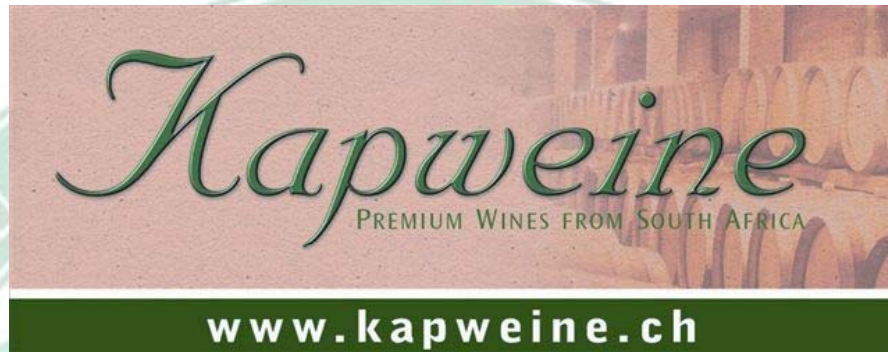


Resultate und Berichte zur Trophy Wine Show 2008 (auf Englisch)

Hier finden Sie diverse Bericht und Reporte mit den Resultaten der Trophy Wein Show 2008 aus Südafrika. Mit Auflistungen der Gewinner der Trophäen und die gesamten verteilten Medaillen aus 1024 eingereicht Weinen von 280 verschiedenen Produzenten. An dieser Weinschau werden wohl die härtesten Bewertungsmethoden in ganz Südafrika angewandt.



The Trophy Wine Show results 3 June 2008

An old champ is top producer for 2008

For those who have observed what has been happening at Nederburg in the past half-decade under the control of cellar master Razvan Macici, no implausible note was struck when Nederburg was declared the Most Successful Producer at the 2008 Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show. White-wine maker Tariro Masayiti had already gone up to collect a trophy for their Private Bin D234 Sauvignon Blanc 2007 and a gold for the Private Bin S316 Weisser Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2004. Probably more in keeping with Nederburg's own aspirations, they also won four silver medals and seven bronze.



Altogether there were 24 gold medals awarded – the same number as in 2007 and 2008. 'The silver medal count of 52 was higher than in 2007', say the organisers, 'and more in line with the average yield for the past five years. The bronze medal tally of 242 was a significant improvement on 2007 (by 38%) and slightly higher than the average percentage since the

inaugural 2002 show.'

This out of an entry this year of 1024 wines from 230 producers. They were judged by three panels, with six local judges and three well-respected foreign critics: this year Joel Payne (Germany), Sam Harrop and Anthony Rose (Britain). The chair of the show was, as always, Michael Fridjhon.

The trophies

Most Successful Producer 2008: Nederburg Wines

Best Red Wine Overall: Eagles' Nest Shiraz 2006

Best White Wine Overall: Zonnebloem Limited Edition Semillon 2007

Discovery of the Show (Best Value): KC Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2005

Port: Bredell's Cape Vintage Reserve 2001

Cabernet Sauvignon: Guardian Peak Lapa Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Shiraz: Eagles' Nest Shiraz 2006

Chardonnay: Jordan Nine Yards Chardonnay 2006

Bordeaux-Style Red Blend: Saronsberg Provenance Rooi 2006

Merlot: Saxenburg Private Collection Merlot 2005



Unwooded Sauvignon Blanc: Nederburg Private Bin D234 Sauvignon Blanc 2007
Wooded Sauvignon Blanc: Quoin Rock The Nicobar 2007
Chenin Blanc: SAAM Mountain Middelburg Chenin Blanc 2007
White Blend: Tokara White 2006
Semillon: Zonnebloem Limited Edition Semillon 2007
Pinot Noir: Bouchard Finlayson Tête de Cuvée Galpin Peak Pinot Noir 2006
Dessert Wine: Delheim Edelspatz Noble Late Harvest 2007
Museum Class Fortified Dessert Wine: Nuy White Muscadell 1998
Museum Class Port: Boplaas Cape Tawny Port 1980

Other gold medal winners:

Cirrus Syrah 2006
Die Krans Vintage Port 1999
Fleur du Cap Unfiltered Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
Groot Constantia Gouverneurs Shiraz 2006
Nederburg Private Bin S316 Weisser Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2004
Stark-Condé Three Pines Jonkershoek Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
Stellenzicht Reserve Semillon 2004
Vergelegen White 2005



Bridging quality and aesthetic judgement

Some results of the Trophy Wine Show

From Business Day, 4 June 2008

Perceptions of quality involving aesthetics are always subjective. For example, you can only assess the merits of a house objectively insofar as you judge its functionality as a shelter. Once you go beyond pure utility you enter the realms of relativity.

There is a school of reasoning that argues that function and aesthetic — what an object does and how it looks — are inextricably linked. Cars intended for the conveyance of passengers have certain obligatory design elements — such as wheels and a motor, for example. When form reinforces function — the sleek lines providing reduced wind resistance for a sports car — then utility and aesthetic coincide. Yet it would be hard to sustain an argument that a Ferrari is better looking — in absolute terms — than a Lamborghini or a Porsche.

When it comes to wine quality, the utility side of the debate devolves into a discussion about the purity of the style and its freedom from fault — already something of a subjective measure. If a cabernet doesn't taste "authentic" to a panellist, it may be judged "out of class".

The Wine and Spirit Board, which enjoys the statutory right to certify all wines which make a claim to variety, can — for example — refuse to issue its seal of approval to a sauvignon blanc if the majority of the board's tasting panel believes it is atypical. Many years ago, before the legislation was tweaked, the owners of the Montpellier estate in Tulbagh successfully challenged in court the board's right to be an arbiter in these matters. The law now says the board knows best — sometimes at the expense of some of the country's best wineries.

Can both be right, or are winemakers always better judges than the bureaucrats who are the gatekeepers to the domestic and export markets? The winemaker presumably knows whether the wine is a fair reflection of what was intended; the board's panellists assess submissions on the basis of familiarity. When new regions are opened, or new styles created, this is often of little use. And if winemakers have a "cellar palate" (in other words, they gravitate to what they make), they can be blind to a wine's shortcomings.



Competent show judges can bridge the two positions. They should be able to reward a range of styles and they should be able to recognise defects and assess their effect on the wine. Not all faults need be fatal to a wine's prospects: this is where judgment is tempered by subjectivity. So it is that the wines of the best producers tend generally to percolate to the "top division". That said, their position on the grid can differ vastly.

The results of this year's Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show — announced on Monday — have much in common with the rankings in the show's previous editions. Of the 15 producers of the 15 class winners, eight are previous trophy laureates. Of the seven first-time trophy winners, only one is a little-known producer — Eagles' Nest — and this is because the property first bottled wine in 2005. But it is not without pedigree.

The winemaker is Martin Meinert, the winemaking partner of the much-lauded Forrester Meinert wines. The property is prize viticultural real estate — 12ha situated high above Constantia. The winner of the British Airways Trophy for the best shiraz, Eagles' Nest also took the Old Mutual Trophy for the show's best red.

Nederburg was the show's most successful producer, with a haul that included one trophy, one gold and four silver medals. The trophy for the best white wine went to the Zonnebloem limited edition semillon 2007, best port to Bredell's for the 2001 Cape Vintage, and the trophy for the Discovery (best value wine) of the Show to Klein Constantia for the KC Cabernet Merlot 2005. Saxenburg won the merlot trophy, Jordan the chardonnay trophy, Tokara the best white blend and Bouchard Finlayson the best pinot noir.

- *Michael Fridjhon is part owner of the Trophy Wine Show and chair of the judges*



Trophy Wine Show

Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show 2008 - An old champ returns

Thursday, June 05, 2008 by Out Sorceress Marketing

In a result which vindicates what commentators and critics have been saying for some time, Nederburg beat several more favoured competitors to take the Fairbairn Capital Trophy for the Most Successful Producer at the 2008 Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show.





The competition, judged over four days in early May at the Grande Roche in Paarl, attracted a record 1,024 entries from 230 cellars. Nederburg secured the Most Successful Producer slot with a trophy for their Private Bin D234 Sauvignon Blanc 2007 as the Best Unwooded Sauvignon Blanc on the show, a gold medal for their Private Bin S316 Weisser Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2004 plus four silver medals and seven bronze medals.



Saronsberg Cellar secured second position in the Most Successful Producer rankings, followed by JP Bredell Wines in third spot.

It has been widely acknowledged that there has been a dramatic improvement in the standard of Nederburg's wines in the past five years. Razvan Macici as Cellarmaster, White-wine maker Tariro Masayiti and Red-wine maker Wim Truter have been focusing on fruit sources, managing batch processing and refining production techniques to optimise quality at all levels of the winemaking process.

This year's competition yielded 24 gold medals in total - exactly the same number as 2007 and 2006. The silver medal count of 52 was higher than in 2007 and more in line with the average yield for the past five years. The bronze medal tally of 242 was a significant improvement on 2007 (by 38%) and slightly higher than the average percentage since the inaugural 2002 show.

Said Stephen Cahill, Marketing Director of Old Mutual: "Old Mutual is delighted to be associated with a world-class showcase for South African wines. We have sponsored this prestigious event since 2002 and believe it to be the perfect opportunity to invest in the success of the country's winemakers."

Co-convenor of the competition (together with *WINE* magazine) and Chairman of the Judges, Michael Fridjhon, was satisfied with the overall results and particularly upbeat about several of the classes. "We don't work a magic formula, nor do we impose any limit in terms of the number of medals awarded by any panel. So when the medal count more or less lines up to the average, it seems to suggest that the 2008 judges applied standards consistent with those of their predecessors."





SARONBERG

A PASSAGE TO ALL | senses



Commenting on the fluctuating medal counts in some classes compared with the 2007 show, he said: "There are obviously variations arising from the dynamic of the panels - show judging can never be an absolute science - but much is accounted in vintage variation."

Feedback at the post-judging judges' feedback session focused on the strength of certain classes - notably white blends, wooded whites (including Sauvignon Blanc), Chenin Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, fortified and dessert wines. The judges were particularly pleased with the top Merlot and the overall quality of the Shiraz category.

Chairman of the Shiraz panel, Sam Harrop MW said: "We've seen elegance, finesse and complexity that I've never seen in South African wines before. So quality has moved on, diversity is starting to come through."

With reference to the strong showing of the 2006 reds which accounted for all the gold medals in the Shiraz and Cabernet classes, Harrop commented: "The big difference between the 2005 and 2006 vintage is that the 06s are so much more approachable texturally".

www.trophywineshow.co.za.



Caption

Back row left to right: Nico van der Merwe (Saxenburg), Anton Bredell (JP Bredell Wines), Carel Nel (Boplaas), Adam Mason (Klein Constantia), Tariro Masayiti (Nederburg), Peter Finlayson (Bouchard Finlayson), Miles Mossop (Tokara), Louis Strydom (Ernie Elis Wines), Andrew Leaver (Perdeberg)

Front row: Gary Jordan (Jordan Wines), Brenda van Niekerk (Delheim), Christo Pienaar (Nuy Winery), Razvan Macici (Nederburg), Elize Coetzee (Zonnebloem), Stephen Roche (Eagles' Nest), Carl van der Merwe (Quoin Rock), Dewaldt Heyns (Saronberg)



Resultate bei Kategorie

2008 MEDAL WINNERS AND SCORES - BY CATEGORY

Full results of the Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show 2008 – category by category – with wines judged using the 100-point system.



- T** Trophy awarded to highest-scoring gold medal winner in a class
G Gold medal awarded for a score of 90 to 100 points out of 100: superlative, world class
S Silver medal awarded for a score of 80 to 89 points out of 100: excellent, wine of distinction
B Bronze medal awarded for a score of 70 to 79 points out of 100: good to very good, fine character

RED WINES

BEST CABERNET FRANC

71 B Zorgvliet Silver Myn Cabernet Franc 2006

BEST CABERNET SAUVIGNON

95 T Guardian Peak Lapa Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
94 G Fleur du Cap Unfiltered Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
94 G Stark-Condé Three Pines Jonkershoek Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

80 S Glen Carlou Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
80 S Kanonkop Cabernet Sauvignon 2001
80 S Nederburg Private Bin R163 Cabernet Sauvignon 2004

78 B Nederburg Private Bin R163 Cabernet Sauvignon 2003
76 B Glen Carlou Gravel Quarry Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
75 B Cederberg V Generations Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
75 B Kanonkop Cabernet Sauvignon 2004
74 B Alto Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
74 B Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
74 B South Hill Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
74 B Stark-Condé Stellenbosch Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
72 B Belfield Magnifica 2006
72 B Groenland Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
72 B Thelema Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
71 B Perdeberg Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
70 B Bergsig Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
70 B Bergwater Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
70 B Black Pearl Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
70 B Brampton Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
70 B Cederberg Cabernet Sauvignon 2006
70 B Flagstone Cool Climate Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
70 B Groenland Cabernet Sauvignon 2004
70 B Manley Cabernet Sauvignon 2005
70 B Rickety Bridge Paulina's Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2004
70 B Vergelegen Cabernet Sauvignon 2001

BEST PINOT NOIR

BEST RED BLENDS - BORDEAUX-STYLE

96 T Saronsberg Provenance Rooi 2006
93 T KC Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2005
88 S Eikendal Classique 2004
85 S Buitenverwachting Christine 2000 - Museum Class
84 S Rustenberg John X Merriman 2005
83 S Buitenverwachting Christine 2005
80 S Hartenberg The Mackenzie 2005
80 S Saronsberg Seismic 2006

79 B Dombeya Samara 2005
79 B Miles Mossop Max 2005
79 B Vilafonté Series C 2005
78 B Jordan Cobblers Hill 2004
76 B Dombeya Samara 2006
75 B Avontuur Vintner's Red 2005
75 B Delheim Grand Reserve 2004
75 B Lanzerac Classic 2005
75 B Raka Quinary 2006
75 B Saronsberg Provenance Rooi 2005
75 B Waverley Hills Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2007
74 B Buitenverwachting Christine 2003
74 B Welbedacht Cricket Pitch 2003
73 B Kanonkop Paul Sauer 2005
73 B La Vigne Owners Selection 2005
73 B Raka Quinary 2005
73 B Saronsberg Seismic 2005
73 B Vergelegen Red 2004
72 B Ernie Els 2004
72 B Groot Constantia Gouverneurs Reserve 2005
71 B Idiom Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot Cabernet Franc 2005
71 B Laibach Friedrich Laibach 2005
71 B Morgenhof Estate 2004
71 B Vergelegen Red 2003
71 B Vilafonté Series M 2005
70 B Ernie Els 2005
70 B Klein Constantia Marlbrook 2006
70 B Meerlust Rubicon 2004
70 B Oak Valley Blend 2004
70 B Vuurberg 2005
70 B Warwick The First Lady 2006

94 T Bouchard Finlayson Tête de Cuvée Galpin Peak Pinot Noir 2006

80 S Chamonix Reserve Pinot Noir 2006

75 B Meerlust Pinot Noir 2004

70 B Glen Carlou Pinot Noir 2007

BEST PINOTAGE

88 S Pulpit Rock Pinotage 2005

75 B Welbedacht Pinotage 2006

74 B Kanonkop Pinotage 2004

73 B La Cave Pinotage 2006

72 B Flagstone Writer's Block Pinotage 2006

72 B Lanzerac Pinotage 2006

72 B Stellenzicht Golden Triangle Pinotage 2006

72 B Welgegund Pinotage 2006

71 B Lyngrove Platinum Pinotage 2005

70 B Dornier Pinotage 2006

70 B Hill & Dale Pinotage 2005

70 B Slaley Pinotage 2006

BEST SHIRAZ

96 T Eagles' Nest Shiraz 2006

95 G Cirrus Syrah 2006

95 G Groot Constantia Gouverneurs Shiraz 2006

85 S Brampton Shiraz 2006

82 S Nederburg Manor House Shiraz 2006

80 S Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Shiraz 2006

80 S Lynx Shiraz 2006

80 S Tokara Zondernaam Shiraz 2004

79 B Hartenberg The Stork Shiraz 2005

78 B Kanu Shiraz 2004

77 B Meerendal Bin 159 Shiraz 2006

75 B De Grendel Shiraz 2006

75 B Glenwood Vignerons Selection Syrah 2006

75 B Mulderbosch Shiraz 2004

75 B Stellenbosch Hills Shiraz 2006

75 B Thelema Shiraz 2004

74 B Cederberg Shiraz 2006

74 B Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Shiraz 2006

74 B Kaapzicht Shiraz 2005

74 B Villiera Shiraz 2004

73 B Edgebaston Shiraz 2005

72 B Andreas Shiraz 2006

72 B First Sighting Shiraz 2006

72 B Saxenburg Select Shiraz 2002

71 B Lyngrove Platinum Shiraz 2005

70 B Black Pearl Shiraz 2006

70 B Brahms Shiraz 2005

70 B Cloof Crucible Shiraz 2006

70 B Dombeya Boulder Road Shiraz 2006

70 B Elgin Vintners Shiraz 2006

70 B Flagstone Dark Horse Shiraz 2005

70 B Glen Carlou Syrah 2005

70 B Groenland Shiraz 2005

70 B Hidden Valley Shiraz 2005

70 B Jordan Syrah 2005

70 B Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Shiraz 2006

70 B La Motte Shiraz 1998 - Museum Class

70 B Zorgvliet Silver Myn Merlot Cabernet Franc 2004

BEST MALBEC

75 B Diemersfontein Carpe Diem Malbec 2005

70 B Nederburg Private Bin R101 Malbec 2002

BEST MERLOT

94 T Saxenburg Private Collection Merlot 2005

84 S Bilton Merlot 2005

84 S Jordan Merlot 2006

81 S Rooiberg Reserve Merlot 2006

80 S Hillcrest Merlot 2006

75 B Laibach Claypot Merlot 2006

75 B Meerendal Merlot 2005

75 B Seidelberg Roland's Reserve Merlot 2006

73 B Zevenwacht Merlot 2005

71 B Rosendal Vintage Selection Merlot 2003

70 B Bottelary Merlot 2006

70 B Meerlust Merlot 2005

BEST PETIT VERDOT

74 B Morkel Petit Verdot 2005

70 B Franschoek Cellar Reserve Petit Verdot 2005

BEST RED BLENDS - PINOTAGE-BASED

72 B SAAM Mountain Heldersig Pinotage Viognier 2006

70 B Bellingham St George 2005

70 B Mountain River Youngest Daughter Pinotage Cabernet Sauvignon 2005

70 B Stellekaya Cape Cross 2004

BEST RED BLENDS - SHIRAZ-BASED

80 S Mont Destin Passioné 2005

80 S Saronsberg Full Circle 2005

76 B Villiera Down to Earth Red 2005

75 B Bellingham Dragon's Lair 2005

74 B Bottelary Classic Red 2006

74 B Groenland Antoinette Marie Premium 2005

74 B Stellenbosch Hills 1707 Reserve 2005

73 B Anura Maestro 2004

72 B Bellingham The Maverick SMV 2005

72 B Groenland Antoinette Marie 2004

72 B Rijk's The Crossing 2005

72 B Yonder Hill Shiraz Merlot 2004

71 B Saronsberg Full Circle 2006

71 B Seven Oaks 6+1 Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2005

70 B Arabella 'in unison' Reserve 2006

70 B Idiom Shiraz Mourvèdre Viognier 2005

70 B Seidelberg Cecilia 2006

70 B The Auction Crossing Syrah Viognier 2006

BEST RED BLENDS - OTHER

79 B Mont du Toit Les Coteaux 2004

78 B Rust en Vrede Estate 2004

76 B Val de Vie 2006

75 B Engelbrecht Els 2006

74 B Overgaauw Touriga Nacional Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

73 B Bergsig Icarus 2005

70 B La Motte Shiraz Viognier 2006
70 B Nicolas van der Merwe Shiraz 2006
70 B Saronsberg Provenance Shiraz 2005
70 B Stark-Condé Three Pines Jonkershoek Syrah 2006
70 B Stellenzicht Syrah 2002
70 B Thelema Shiraz 2005
70 B Waverley Hills Shiraz 2007
70 B Zevenwacht Syrah 2004

73 B Boschendal Reserve Collection Grande Reserve 2004
72 B Warwick Three Cape Ladies 2005
70 B Doolhof Cape Boar 2006

BEST SANGIOVESE

70 B Tukulu Organic Sangiovese 2006

BEST ZINFANDEL

73 B Idiom Zinfandel 2006

WHITE WINES

BEST CHARDONNAY

94 T Jordan Nine Yards Chardonnay 2006

80 S Chamonix Reserve Chardonnay 1998 - Museum Class
80 S Chamonix Reserve Chardonnay 2004 - Museum Class
80 S Glen Carlou Quartz Stone Chardonnay 2007
80 S Van Loveren Wolverine Creek Reserve Chardonnay 2007
79 B Klein Constantia Chardonnay 2007
77 B Amani Chardonnay 2005
76 B Thelema Sutherland Chardonnay 2007
75 B Cape Point Chardonnay 2003 - Museum Class
75 B Eikendal Chardonnay 2007
75 B Hartenberg The Eleanor Chardonnay 2005
75 B Uva Mira Single Vineyard Chardonnay 2004 - Museum Class
74 B Cape Point Chardonnay 2007
73 B Bouchard Finlayson Sans Barrique Chardonnay 2007 (unwooded)
73 B Quoin Rock Cape Agulhas Chardonnay 2006
72 B Cape Point Chardonnay 2000 - Museum Class
72 B Stellenbosch Hills Chardonnay 2007
72 B Thandi Chardonnay 2006
71 B Oak Valley Chardonnay 2006
71 B Saronsberg Chardonnay 2006
70 B Bergsig Chardonnay 2006
70 B Weltevrede Place of Rocks Chardonnay 2006

BEST CHENIN BLANC

95 T SAAM Mountain Middelburg Chenin Blanc 2007 (unwooded)

82 S De Morgenzon Chenin Blanc 2005 (wooded)

79 B Tokara Zondernaam Chenin Blanc 2007 (wooded)
77 B Alvi's Drift Premium Selection Chenin Blanc 2007 (unwooded)
76 B Rijk's Barrel Fermented Chenin Blanc 2006 (wooded)
75 B Kleine Zalze Vineyard Selection Chenin Blanc 2006 (wooded)
75 B Perdeberg Chenin Blanc 2007 (wooded)
75 B Welbedacht Bushvine Chenin Blanc 2006 (wooded)
74 B SAAM Chenin Blanc 2007 (wooded)

BEST SAUVIGNON BLANC - UNWOODED

95 T Nederburg Private Bin D234 Sauvignon Blanc 2007

87 S Kleine Zalze Family Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2007
85 S La Vierge Sauvignon Blanc 2006
84 S Bellingham Sauvignon Blanc with a splash of Semillon 2007
82 S Cape Point Sauvignon Blanc 2007
82 S Cederberg Sauvignon Blanc 2007
82 S Mooiplaas Sauvignon Blanc 2007
81 S Cape Point Sauvignon Blanc 2004 - Museum Class
81 S Grootte Post Sauvignon Blanc 2007
81 S Le Bonheur Sauvignon Blanc 2007
80 S Goede Hoop Sauvignon Blanc 2007

79 B Grootte Post Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2007
79 B Kumkani Sauvignon Blanc 2007
78 B Ormonde Sauvignon Blanc 2007
78 B Zevenwacht 360' Sauvignon Blanc 2007
77 B Kumkani Lanner Hill Sauvignon Blanc 2007
75 B Land's End Sauvignon Blanc 2007
75 B Nederburg Private Bin D215 Sauvignon Blanc 2007
75 B Saxenburg Private Collection Sauvignon Blanc 2007
75 B Zevenwacht Sauvignon Blanc 2007
75 B Zorgvliet Sauvignon Blanc 2007
74 B Eikendal Sauvignon Blanc 2007
74 B Steenberg Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2007
73 B Altydgedacht Sauvignon Blanc 2007
73 B Buitenverwachting Husseys Vlei Sauvignon Blanc 2006
73 B Groot Constantia Gouverneurs Sauvignon Blanc 2007
73 B Tokara Elgin Sauvignon Blanc 2007
72 B Buitenverwachting Sauvignon Blanc 2006
72 B Diemersdal MM Louw Sauvignon Blanc 2007
72 B Du Toitskloof Sauvignon Blanc 2008
72 B Highlands Road Free Run Sauvignon Blanc 2007
72 B Kleine Zalze Cellar Selection Sauvignon Blanc 2007
72 B Tokara Walker Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2007
72 B Uitkyk Sauvignon Blanc 2007
70 B La Vierge Des Dieux Sauvignon Blanc 2007
70 B Van Loveren Sauvignon Blanc 2008

BEST SAUVIGNON BLANC - WOODED

94 T Quoin Rock The Nicobar 2007

73 B Hazendal Bushvine Chenin Blanc 2007 (unwooded)
72 B Cederberg V Generations Chenin Blanc 2006 (unwooded)

BEST GEWÜRZTRAMINER

70 B Altydgedacht Gewürztraminer 2007

BEST RIESLING

70 B Hartenberg Weisser Riesling 2006
70 B Klein Constantia Rhine Riesling 2007
70 B Villiera Rhine Riesling 2006

84 S Cape Point Isliedh 2004 - Museum Class

76 B Perdeberg Vineyard Selection Sauvignon Blanc 2007

76 B SAAM Mountain Phisantekraal Sauvignon Blanc 2007

75 B Chamonix Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2002 - Museum Class

75 B Perdeberg Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2007

71 B Quoin Rock Simonsberg Oculus 2005

70 B Atkinson Ridge Sauvignon Blanc 2007

BEST SEMILLON

96 T Zonnebloem Limited Edition Semillon 2007

94 G Stellenzicht Reserve Semillon 2004

76 B Cape Point Semillon 2006

73 B Cape Point Semillon 2007

BEST WHITE BLEND - SEMILLON/SAUVIGNON BLANC

95 T Tokara White 2006

94 G Vergelegen White 2005

79 B Flagstone Knock on Wood 2007

79 B Rijk's Fascination 2006

78 B Cape Point Isliedh 2006

75 B Vergelegen White 2007

73 B Nicolas van der Merwe Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2006

71 B Steenberg Magna Carta 2007

BEST WHITE BLENDS - OTHER

84 S Nederburg Ingenuity White Blend 2007

82 S Val de Vie GVC 2007

81 S Flagstone Two Roads 2004 - Museum Class

80 S Miles Mossop Saskia 2007

77 B De Grendel Winifred 2007

77 B Flagstone Two Roads 2005

77 B Vondeling Babiana 2006

72 B Bellingham Fair Maiden 2007

ROSÉ, SPARKLING, PORT

ROSÉ WINES - BEST BLANC DE NOIR

73 B Lynx Blanc de Noir 2008 (dry)

ROSÉ WINES - BEST ROSÉ

72 B Sumaridge Dry Rosé 2007

72 B Woolworths House Rosé 2008 (medium-dry)

SPARKLING WINES - BEST CAP CLASSIQUE

85 S Villiera Monro Brut 2001

80 S Weltevrede Philip Jonker Brut 2000 - Museum Class

75 B Krone Borealis Brut 1998 - Museum Class

73 B Krone Borealis Brut 1997 - Museum Class

BEST PORT

95 T Boplaas Cape Tawny Port 1980 - Museum Class

95 T Bredell's Cape Vintage Reserve 2001

94 G Die Krans Cape Vintage Port 1999 - Museum Class

86 S Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve Port 2005

85 S Bredell's Cape Vintage 2003

81 S Bredell's Cape Late Bottled Vintage 2004

79 B Boplaas Cape Tawny Port NV

79 B De Krans Cape Tawny Port NV

73 B De Krans Cape Vintage Reserve Port 2005

70 B De Krans Cape Vintage Reserve Port 2006

70 B Du Toitskloof Cape Ruby 2005

DESSERT WINES

BEST UNFORTIFIED

96 T Delheim Edelspatz Noble Late Harvest 2007
96 G Nederburg Private Bin S316 Weisser Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2004

82 S Tierhoek Straw Wine 2006
81 S Neethlingshof Lord Neethling Weisser Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2006
80 S Nederburg Special Late Harvest 2007

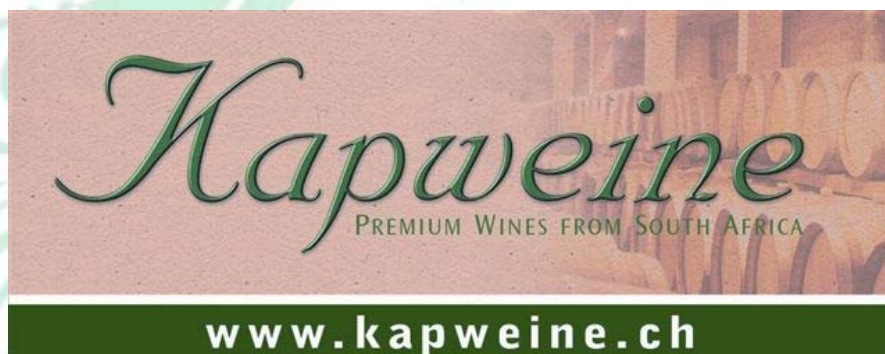
74 B Noble Iona 2007 (Noble Late Harvest)
73 B Nederburg Private Bin Edelkeur Noble Late Harvest 2004
72 B Klein Constantia Riesling Noble Late Harvest 2006
72 B Nederburg Edelkeur Noble Late Harvest 1977 - Museum Class
71 B Fleur du Cap Noble Late Harvest 2007
71 B Nederburg Winemaster's Noble Late Harvest 2007
70 B Nederburg Private Bin Edelkeur Noble Late Harvest 2002

BEST FORTIFIED

94 T Nuy White Muscadel 1998 - Museum Class

86 S Nuy White Muscadel 2003
81 S Alvi's Drift Muscat de Frontignan 2006 (white)

79 B Nuy White Muscadel 2006
78 B Montagu Muscadel de Frontignan 2004 (red)
75 B Du Toitskloof Red Muscadel 2007
74 B Montagu White Muscadel 2007
73 B Weltevrede Oupa se Wyn 2006 (red Muscat)



SHOW REVIEW

What the Show says about SA Wine quality in 2008, by Michael Fridjhon, Chairman of the judges

Every edition of the Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show has its own personality – a combination of the dominant features of the wines which have been entered, the preferences of the judges, and the fashions of the domestic and international wine industries. For example, in the past, obsessions with faults caused by closures or concerns about lax cellar practices have spilled over into the post-judging feedback session which takes place immediately after the trophy judging. This has produced not only the kind of discussion and controversy which is good for winemakers and consumers alike, but drives changes in the way things are done.

This self-generating personality which emerges over the four days of judging stamps its own imprint on the results for that year. It means that, despite the chairman's injunctions on the stylistic focus of the Show, the dynamic of the panels is as much a determinant of an aesthetic message as any guideline laid out at the beginning of the Show. How the judges interact, the preferences of any two members of the panel, and of course the features of the wines on the tasting bench, all contribute to the personality that emerges within the classes themselves and in the Show as a whole.

The 2008 Old Mutual Trophy Wine Show was no exception. Although many of the panellists had served in previous years (including one of the international judges, Anthony Rose, who participated in the inaugural competition in



2002), several were first-time participants on the Show's tasting teams. Their predilections, as much as the dynamic of panels which are changed daily, are reflected in this year's results. Notwithstanding this caveat, there is a sense that the overall assessment of each class is fairly contained in the medal tally.

Chardonnay was not as strong this year as it had been in 2007. No one on the panels – nor I as the chairman of the judges – would seriously dispute that. Instead of there being four or five gold medals in the class – the kind of result seen in 2007 – there was a solitary laureate taking the trophy without the need for a competitive taste-off. A quick glance at the silver and bronze medallists shows that the serious contenders were all there, and that their achievements percolated to the top of the inherently weaker class. But it is as if there had been a downward bracket creep compared with the 2007 Show, and this was not a function of a less generous panel but rather a reflection of the vintage.

In fact, at the post-judging feedback session vintage variation was frequently cited as the major influence on the medal crops in the particular classes. Both the 2006 Shiraz and the 2006 Cabernets yielded all the gold medals for those varieties. They were obviously the youngest major segment in their particular categories, and although in the midst of judging both panels were optimistic that they would find more gold medals among the older vintages, as things turned out the weaker 2005s were as unsuccessful in the Shiraz class as they had been when judged last year – where only a single gold medal emerged from the largest class of entry on the Show.

Especially in the red wine classes, generally younger wines dominated the medals because of their more pronounced flavour profiles – and of course the industry's ongoing investment in upgrading planting material and learning from the comments of its critics. However, Museum Class entries continued to box above their weight, and since submissions in 2008 were substantially up on previous years their presence is more evident in this year's medal tally. One statistic says it all: 7.5% of Museum Class wines made it to the trophy judging, compared with 2.1% for all the other wines – an indication that in some categories, most notably fortified wines, panellists venerate old-wine characters.

Allowing for these nuances, the Show produced a good spread of results across many of the more important classes. Sauvignon Blanc, the entry of which grows in number every year, yielded two golds – one for an unwooded wine, another for an obviously (but very subtly) oaked candidate. Likewise, the blended white wine class garnered a pair of golds in one of the smallest – but consistently successful – categories. Semillon did well to secure two gold medals and Chenin was perhaps unlucky to have marked its territory with only one.

Among the Noble Late Harvests, golds were up on 2007 but still below the potential of the industry to yield and celebrate world class dessert wines. Ports tracked the historical average, but Muscadels made it to the trophy judging for the first time since the 2002 Show. The Merlot class yielded a particularly impressive solo gold, and so did the Pinot Noirs (only the second non-Museum Pinot gold in the history of the Show). Red blends, other than Bordeaux-style combinations which took home two gold medals, all proved a big disappointment. Panellist Christian Eedes, addressing the post-judging press conference, maintained (not uncontroversially) that the idea of resurrecting interest in the Pinotage category by promoting the idea of the "Cape Blend" should be abandoned firmly, but discreetly.

The Shiraz class is clearly coming of age, with a choice of styles and evidence of obvious fruit quality supporting the claims of those punting the class, as well as the growers whose plantings account for the biggest new vineyard investment in 21st century South Africa. Bordeaux-style blends and Cabernet Sauvignon are showing comparable strength and diversity in the medal-winning top 25% of the entry, but, like Shiraz, a frightening array of poor, disappointing and downright faulty submissions in the bottom 25%.

In fact, faults ranging from viticultural under-management to ill-conceived and poorly executed wines produced in unhygienic cellars continue to plague the industry and to temper the otherwise upbeat nature of this review. For all the progress made by the serious players whose wines continue to dominate the medal lists, and by newcomers who have heeded the comments made by the Show's judges over the past few years, there is a paunchy underbelly of dross. Not only is there the usual array of bacterial spoilage, 'brett'-infected over-ripe and porty reds, pongy, reduced and volatile submissions, but the latest lament from the UK's wine writers – an unidentified "rubbery smell" – is becoming increasingly evident. Given the avoidable faults still widely in evidence, especially among red wines, the presence of something still requiring positive diagnosis should be a matter of grave concern.



BY THE NUMBERS

1024 wines judged in total

968 in 2007, 961 in 2006

318 medals awarded

237 in 2007, 297 in 2006

242 bronze medal winners

175 in 2007, 227 in 2006

52 silver medal winners

38 in 2007, 46 in 2006

24 gold medal winners

24 in 2007, 24 in 2006

23 producers won gold

21 in 2007, 20 in 2006

19 trophies awarded

19 in 2007, 19 in 2006

16 trophy-winning wines

15 in 2007, 15 in 2006

16 trophy-winning producers

13 in 2007, 12 in 2006

3 won more than one trophy

4 in 2007, 5 in 2006

