



Press Release

WINE TASTING TO BE HELD AT HOWARD GALLERY OF FINE ART

Event Name: "THE ART OF FINE WINE"
Wine Expert: Eric Cooperman, Orlando Florida
Date: August 19, from 7 - 9 pm
Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 - 5pm - Sunday 10 - 5
Contact: Howard Cooperman (215) 862-5272

New Hope, PA July 2006-- On Saturday August 19, from 7 - 9 PM Howard Gallery of Fine Art will host a wine tasting experience featuring Eric Cooperman, a wine expert from Orlando Florida.

Wine aficionados will enjoy this evening with a coupling of fine wine and exquisite art. Independent wine expert, Eric Cooperman, will lead us through a flight of Silver Oak & Twomey, paired with finger foods and imported cheeses.

Eric started his education at Johnson & Wales University in Miami with first pursuits in hospitality and more specifically, fine cuisine. After graduating two years later with Magna Cum Laude honors and was offered a six month European internship at a two Michelin Star Restaurant named "La Rive."

While working at the restaurant, a sommelier named Teunis, befriended Eric and began introducing him to the world of wine which lead to Eric's decision to further educate himself with as much as he could. Arriving back in the United States six months later, he quickly found an entry-level stock

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position at one of the highest volume wine stores in Miami. Before long, he was asked by management to help in the purchasing responsibilities for the store.

Due to Eric's intense love and knowledge of wine, he was invited to travel to Europe and learn more about French and Italian wines by his employer. In 1999 after touring many wine castles and absorbing as much information about wine making and production he arrived back to the states and was given a promotion to assistant wine buyer while finishing his Bachelors Degree in hospitality.

Before graduation, an opportunity presented itself from Premier Beverage, for wholesale sales along the South Beach area which Eric proudly accepted. After 6 months of sales and finding little gratification in the job, Eric realized his strong desire to return to the retail side of the business. His decision relocated him to Orlando, where he stumbled upon a newly opened wine store called Gran Cru. Although after speaking with the owner of the new establishment that was not in a financial position to hire, Eric rapidly impressed the owner with his background and knowledge of wine. He was offered a position as wine buyer, that was new to the shop, which allowed the owner to expand his client base due to Eric's talent.

Eric has been the wine buyer at Gran Cru since March 2002, and has just organized the first "OREGON PINOT NOIR FESTIVAL" in Orlando which is being held at several locations with over 40 wineries participating and includes many lectures. Distinguished wine makers Paul Hart, Forrest Klaffke, and Howard Rossbach, will be just some of the guest speakers during the incredible two day event that Eric pulled together.

Tickets for the event are \$65. per person in advance, and reservations must be made by no later than August 15. A \$50. gallery gift certificate will be presented to all attendees that may be used toward the purchase of any art in the gallery that evening.

For more information please feel free to contact Howard Cooperman (215) 862-5272 or email: framz1@aol.com