



OVER 550 WINES REVIEWED IN THIS ISSUE PAGE 79

# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

APRIL 2013

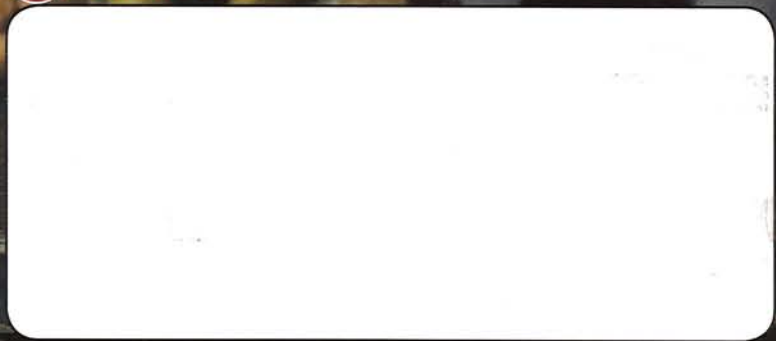
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## Wine Star Power

Luminaries from the wine and spirits world gathered—and partied—at *Wine Enthusiast Magazine's* annual Wine Star Awards gala in New York City.



Adam Strum and Miguel Torres



Joseph and Ofelia Gallo

Guests mingled at the cocktail reception, tasting wines and spirits courtesy of this year's award winners.



**N**early 500 guests, celebrities and media that included an Italian TV news crew braved inclement weather to attend the 12th annual Wine Star Awards at The New York Public Library in January.

Guests gathered for cocktails and wine provided by award winners in the stunning main lobby before convening for the ceremony and four-course meal paired with recipients' top wines downstairs. The Master of Ceremonies, Adam Strum—Chairman of Wine Enthusiast Companies and editor and publisher of *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*—kicked off the evening with a warm welcome and a toast to the late David Taub, the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Strum then presented the first Wine Star of the evening to Hubert Opici for American Wine Legend. At 96 years old, the vivacious chairman of the family-owned Opici Wine Group was honored for his meritorious 75-year career in the wine industry.

The evening's award recipients reflected innovation and progressive thinking, a theme in the acceptance speeches of trailblazers like Robert DeRoose, President and CEO of Kobrand, who accepted the Importer of the Year award, Michael Binstein, CEO of Binny's Beverage Depot, who was awarded Retailer of the Year, and Jean-Charles Boisset, winner of American Winery of the Year for Napa Valley's Raymond Vineyards, whose fun-loving James Bond-style video delighted the crowd. Miguel A. Torres's acceptance speech for Lifetime Achievement Award reflected his commitment to bringing fine wine to all markets; Torres joined his family business more than 50 years ago and was honored chiefly for his role as a global wine ambassador.

The last award of the evening, Person of the Year, was given to Joseph E. Gallo, President and CEO of the world's largest family-owned winery, E. & J. Gallo. Joseph is widely credited for reinventing the company, which was started by his father and uncle, and making Gallo one of the largest exporters of California wine. —**M.D & J.J**



Eric Trump and Lara Yunaska



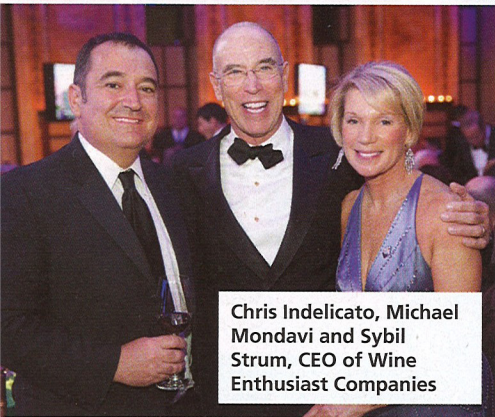
Jorge Riccitelli and Michael Halstrick



Don, Dina, Hubert and Linda Opici



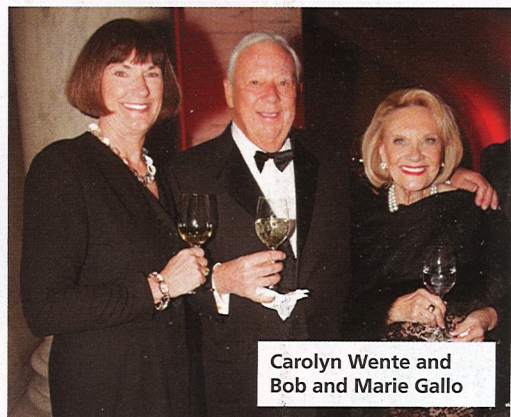
Jean-Charles Boisset and Susan Kostrzewa, executive editor of *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*



Chris Indelicato, Michael Mondavi and Sybil Strum, CEO of Wine Enthusiast Companies



Michael Madrigale and Jacki Strum, communications manager for Wine Enthusiast Companies



Carolyn Wente and Bob and Marie Gallo



From left: Adam Strum, editor and publisher of *Wine Enthusiast Magazine* and chairman of Wine Enthusiast Companies; Joseph Magliocco, president of Michter's (Distiller of the Year); Victor Schoenfeld, winemaker for Golan Heights Winery (New World Winery of the Year); Joseph Gallo, CEO of E. & J. Gallo (Person of the Year); Michael Madrigale, sommelier of selected Daniel Boulud properties (Sommelier of the Year); Michael Binstein, CEO of Binny's Beverage Depot (Retailer of the Year); David Biggar, owner of Vintage Point (Innovator of the Year); Angus Winchester, global brand ambassador for Tanqueray Gin (Brand Ambassador/Mixologist of the Year); Hubert Opici, chairman of Opici Wines (American Wine Legend of the Year); Marco Caprai, winemaker for Arnaldo Caprai (European Winery of the Year); Jorge Riccitelli, winemaker for Bodega Norton (Winemaker of the Year); Robert DeRoose, president and CEO of Kobrand (Importer of the Year); Silvia Clemente Muncio, Counselor of Agriculture for Castilla y León; and José Trillo, president of the Ribera del Duero Consejo Regulador, for Ribera del Duero (Wine Region of the Year); Jean-Charles Boisset, owner of Raymond Vineyards (American Winery of the Year); Miguel A. Torres, president of the Torres Group (Lifetime Achievement)