

GEV

MAGAZINE

www.gevmag.com

ISSUE
15

FASHION FORWARD

AMELIA
+DALIA

In Full Fiesta Bloom with the Cejas

SOPHIE
AZOUAOU

STEP INTO HER GREEN WORLD

ALISAL GUEST RANCH

SPRINGTIME IN SOLVANG

DISCOVER TURKEY

EXQUISITE DINING IN ISTANBUL

+ CAPPADOCIA



GEV EVENTS

Napa Gras at Raymond Vineyards

A Celebration of Life Hosted by Jean Charles Boisset

WINE | FOOD | ART | PEOPLE | GALAS | PLACES | LAUNCHES | CONCERTS

By Genevieve Dee
Photography by Chris Miramon

Napa Gras is no mere gala but a celebration of life, a moment that transcends the traditional, invokes memories of Carnival celebrations from across the world, and is the union of art, music, wine and decadence — it is an event to inspire, exclusively for Premiere Napa Valley wine trade guests.” This, so eloquently put by Jean Charles Boisset, our host for the night, was sure to be a night to remember. On a perfect wine country eve, sky beams shot up into the clear sky directing everyone in the valley to Raymond Vineyards; telling people exactly where they need to be. As we strolled down the red carpet, we were immediately mesmerized by the gorgeous aerial bartender who snaked her way up and down a silky drape of white cloth; twirling in graceful somersaults as she served chilled JCB No 21 Brut upside down all while suspended in mid-air. Jean Charles was on hand, looking debonair and ultra chic in a maroon velvet jacket with a black bow tie, greeting everyone with exuberance that is instantly contagious.

Excitement and elation exuded from his voice as he used a saber to slice the top of a bottle in one clean, quick decisive move. He proudly laughed at his success and quickly shared the contents with everyone around him and welcomed them to Napa Gras. “To explore Raymond Vineyards is to experience it. It is an experience for all your senses” he added gleefully.

Red was the color of the night, a perfect complement to the burlesque theme. Lace, corsets, feathers, fishnet stockings, bustiers, stilettos and boots were abundant. Many wore masks which gave them the anonymity to be brazen and release all kinds of inhibitions and enjoy the night’s pleasures. Your eyes feasted on mannequins everywhere wearing sexy lingerie and feathers strategically placed on serving tables dressed with fruit, cheese and crackers or atop walkways at the Crystal Cellar. Some hung upside down from a trapeze or were found lounging on a table surrounded by truffle chocolate and macarons in the Red Room. Exquisite vases and Baccarat crystal, Marilyn Monroe, beautiful maps, art everywhere, interesting books, red roses, mirrors and chandeliers, there is so much to see.

You dared to have your photo taken underneath a lion with its mouth open as you imagined a roar from it ready to pounce and devour you. Your ears hear the familiar sound of dice bouncing at a craps table, or the sound of casino chips as they are counted and stacked in the blackjack tables. There was a hallway, a paradise for

your tactile senses. With eyes closed, swatches of different materials and textures challenged you as your fingers luxuriated over each one. Can you tell the difference between silk and satin?

Your sense of smell prevailed in another area filled with different scents captured in old fashioned perfume glass bottles complete with a little rubber ball you would squeeze to release the aroma. You got a whiff of happiness, of relaxation, a childhood memory and the scent of a past lover. Your recollection brought a smile to your lips.

Visit them at 849 Zinfandel Ln,
St Helena, CA 94574 | (707) 963-3141
raymondvineyards.com

