



May 2012

**WYNNS COONAWARRA ESTATE SHOWCASES THE BEST OF COONAWARRA'S 'TERRA ROSSA' TERROIR  
WITH A HISTORICAL SELECTION OF ICON SHIRAZ AND CABERNET SAUVIGNON WINES.**

*'Terra rossa' terroir – A selection of Wynns Coonawarra Estate Cabernet and Shiraz*

*Wynns Masterclass - 2.30pm Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012*

*VinExpo Asia Pacific 2012 – Pavillion No. DE93*

One of Australia's most noted winemakers and 2010 Gourmet Traveller WINE Winemaker of the Year, Sue Hodder of Wynns Coonawarra Estate, will host a rare and exclusive masterclass to showcase a selection of Wynns latest vintage and museum release icon Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz wines, at this year's VinExpo Asia Pacific (Hong Kong) on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

This exceptional tasting promises something truly special. Masterclass guests will be taken on regional exploration into benchmark Australian Cabernet Sauvignon & Shiraz, with a historical selection of pinnacle Australian wines - Wynns Michael Shiraz, Wynns John Riddoch Cabernet Sauvignon and Wynns Coonawarra Estate's 'Black Label' Cabernet Sauvignon. This tasting will also highlight this winery's defined leadership in crafting single vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, along with sub regional Cabernet blend wines from prized vineyards along V&A Lane - a prestigious and sought after locality along the famous terra rossa strip in Coonawarra. V&A Lane in the heart of Coonawarra is known for growing both exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz. Collectively these wines all have their own particular heritage and style and showcase the strength of Coonawarra.

Feature wines within the masterclass include a mature 1990 **Wynns Michael Shiraz** to the latest release 2008 vintage. Named after Wynn's young son, Wynns Michael Shiraz, (then called Michael Hermitage) was a one-off from the 1955 vintage made after proprietor David Wynn noticed the outstanding quality of the wine from two particular barrels and ordered them to be bottled separately. Revived with the superb 1990 vintage, fruit used for this wine comes from the best vineyard sites in Coonawarra and is only made in years when the grapes are of extraordinarily high quality.

The unique line up will also include a 1998 **John Riddoch Cabernet Sauvignon** and 2008 (20<sup>th</sup> vintage release). First crafted in 1982, this definitive Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon is made in small quantities from the best fruit grown on the estate's extensive Cabernet plantings and made only in years when grapes are suitable, using less than one per cent of the top Cabernet grapes.

It will also showcase a preview into the evolution of **Wynns Coonawarra Estate 'Black Label' Cabernet Sauvignon** with the 1989 and 54<sup>th</sup> release 2009 vintage. Wynns 'Black Label' Cabernet is a perennial favourite in auction circles and has gained the notable reputation as one of Australia's most collected wines, consistently delivering the potential for medium to long-term cellaring. Crafted from only the top 20 to 25 per cent of Cabernet fruit available in the region from vineyards with an average age of 33 years, this is a wine of style and stature.

Visitors to the Wynns Coonawarra Estate tasting stand (DE93) will also have the opportunity to sample a cross selection of core whites, reds and luxury wines from the Wynns portfolio.



**Key details for VinExpo Wynns Masterclass are as follows:**

Date	Masterclass	Time
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	<p align="center"><b>Wynns Coonawarra Estate presented by Sue Hodder</b></p> <p align="center"><i>'Terra rossa' terroir – A selection of Wynns Coonawarra Estate Cabernet and Shiraz</i></p> <p align="center"><b><u>A Selection of New Release and Back Vintage Wines:</u></b></p> <p align="center"><i>Wynns V&amp;A Lane Cabernet Shiraz (sub-regional wines)</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Wynns Single Vineyard wines</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Wynns Coonawarra Estate 'Black Label' Cabernet Sauvignon</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Wynns Michael Shiraz</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Wynns John Riddoch Cabernet Sauvignon</i></p>	2.30pm

**For further information please contact:**

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About Sue Hodder**

Sue Hodder is one of Australia's best-known winemakers, awarded the prestigious Gourmet Traveller Wine's 'Winemaker of the Year', celebrating Australia's most exceptional vinous talent. Sue commenced her career as a viticulturist. Sue believes her early viticultural training – assessing vines, analysing mature fruit and tasting the finished wine – gave her an invaluable insight into the importance of the vineyard in quality wine production. Sue moved to Wynns Coonawarra Estate for the 1993 vintage and, in 1998, took over the role as Senior Winemaker. Sue brings valuable experience with vintages in premium Cabernet wine regions including Margaret River, California and Bordeaux. She has judged over 80 Regional, National and International wine shows and is admired by her peers for her ongoing commitment and attention to detail. Now completing her 20<sup>th</sup> vintage, Sue is supported by an exceptional winemaking team, notably the talents of Sarah Pidgeon and Luke Skeer.

**About Wynns Coonawarra Estate**

Wynns Coonawarra Estate was founded by Scottish pioneer John Riddoch, who as a true visionary planted vineyards in 1891 and completed the estate's famous triple-gabled winery in 1896. Today the vineyard continues to produce classic and varietal wine which is acknowledged as being amongst Australia's best. In 1951 the Wynn family purchased the iconic winery and vineyard, convinced of the region's potential to produce top-quality wines. Melbourne designer Richard Beck's now-iconic woodcut illustration of the winery façade adorns the first wine released under the Wynns Coonawarra Estate label in 1952.

Over the past 15 years, the Wynns Coonawarra Estate vineyards have been meticulously rejuvenated resulting in wines of greater refinement to capture the true essence of Coonawarra – varietal character with finesse. Today Wynns Coonawarra Estate is Coonawarra's pre-eminent wine producer and largest single vineyard holder, with the longest-established vineyards in the region. Under the guidance of Sue Hodder, Wynns wines are regarded as benchmarks for the district, lauded for their consistent quality and depth of flavour. In vintages when the grapes are deemed exceptional, two flagship reds are made: the John Riddoch Cabernet Sauvignon, and the Michael Shiraz. A range of single vineyard wines is further evidence of Wynns' depth; a heralded vineyard is selected and the wine named in its honour.