2010 Penfolds Yattarna Chardonnay wins ‘Judgement of Montreal’

The third annual Le Jugement de Montréal (Judgement of Montréal), the high profile annual wine tasting with Quebec’s private import association, RASIPAV, was held in Montréal last week and the 2010 Penfolds Yattarna Chardonnay took top honours.

Wine judge, Jacques Orhon said, in reference to Australian wines, “The wines we tasted today had a subtle, refined and very well-crafted use of oak.”

The event, loosely based on the re-enactment of the famed 1976 Judgement of Paris wine tasting, involved 30 wines tasted by 14 judges, who are among the most influential industry professionals in Quebec.

Penfolds Yattarna Chardonnay was the result of one of the most comprehensive, focused and highly publicized wine development projects ever conducted in Australia, with the intention of creating a white wine that could stand alongside the standards of Penfolds Grange.

Kym Schroeter, Penfolds Senior White Winemaker, states the 2010 is “Benchmark Yattarna – wonderful flavour and length. A suitably modern Australian Chardonnay.”

The top 10 Chardonnays were:
- Australia: Penfold’s Yattarna Chardonnay 2010 (Tasmania/Adelaide Hills, South Australia)
- Australia: Leeuwin Estate Art Series Chardonnay 2009 (Margaret River, Western Australia)
- Australia: Vasse Felix Heytesbury Chardonnay 2012 (Margaret River, Western Australia)
- Australia: Bindi Quartz Chardonnay 2012 (Macedon Ranges, Victoria)
- France: Santenay les 3 Croix, J. Bambara, 2011
- France : Puligny 1er cru Folatières, Génot-Boulanger, 2010
- France : Chablis 1er cru Beauroy, D&A Dauvissat, 2011
- Australia : Ngeringa Chardonnay 2009 (Adelaide Hills, South Australia)
- France : Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru, Pavlo, 2008

The judges were:
- Guénaël Revel - educator, broadcaster, author of Guide Revel des Champagnes et des autres bulles
- Marc Chapleau - wine writer and editor of SAQ Les Blogues des vins et spiritueux
- Bill Zacharkiw - wine writer for the Gazette and various wine publications nationally
- Nadia Fournier - wine writer, co-author of Le Guide du vin
- Robert Plamondon - wine writer and blogger
- Véronique Rivest - 2nd best sommelier in the world, Tokyo 2013
- Élyse Lambert - best sommelier, Americas, 2009
- Patrick Desy - wine writer for Le journal de Montréal
- Yves Mailloux - wine writer for the Huffington Post
- Jean Sébastien Delisle - wine writer, restaurateur, sommelier
- Jean Aubry - wine writer for Le Devoir
- Jacques Orhon - wine writer, educator, broadcaster