



Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS

Taylor Museum

Bemis School of Art

Performing Arts

30 West Dale Street

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

tel: 719.634.5581 fax: 719.634.0570

www.csfineartscenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Charlie Snyder, Director of Communications
719.477.4316; csnyder@csfineartscenter.org

Elizabeth Youngquist, Wine Festival Event Chair
719.649.5511; eyoungquist@comcast.net

WINE FESTIVAL OF COLORADO SPRINGS 19th Annual Festival features "The Wines of South Africa"

COLORADO SPRINGS (Feb. 3, 2010) – The Wine Festival of Colorado Springs, the premier wine festival in the Front Range, will feature *The Wines of South Africa*, March 5-6, with events held at The Broadmoor, Garden of the Gods Club and Paragon Culinary School.

All proceeds will benefit the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center.

South Africa's wine culture goes back some 350 years, and from that long history comes a wine tradition of tastes and styles with its roots in the classic "Old World" of France, German and Italy. But it also has an acute awareness of the contemporary consumer, as has been defined by the winemaking in the "New World" of California and Australia. It has often been said that South African wine is in the unique position of straddling both of these wonderful worlds.

The weekend-long Festival kicks off at the Broadmoor Hotel on the evening of Friday, March 5, with the **South African Wine Experience Seminar**. The perfect preview of this unique weekend, our South African wine ambassadors will offer a journey of the palate and the eyes. Through their wines and photographs, you will experience the 350-year-old winemaking tradition from one of the world's most diversely beautiful countries. Next up is the **Grand Tasting**, featuring over 300 varieties of wine, culinary delights from a wide assortment of the region's finest restaurants and caterers, a silent wine market auction, music and dancing.

During the day on Saturday, March 6, you can educate your palate at two seminars. In the **South African Wine, But What Cheese? Seminar**, our experts carefully choose the cheeses that best accompany the wines. The **Classic Food & Wine Pairing Seminar**, hosted by Chef Victor Matthews at the Paragon Culinary School, is structured for elegance and food compatibility. South African wines perfectly fit the bill for this delicious, sell-out luncheon seminar. Chef and our guests, using the flavors of South Africa, will shed light on the art of food & wine pairing.

The culmination of the Festival is the **Gourmet Wine Dinner and Live Auction** held at the Garden of the Gods Club on Saturday, March 6. A five-course, world-class gourmet dinner, each course paired with the elegant wines of our distinguished guests, will be followed by an exciting live auction of rare and one-of-a-kind collectible wine and wine-related lifestyle packages.

The Festival has benefitted the Fine Arts Center since 2006. In its 19th year, the Festival has become one of the preeminent arts fundraisers in the Pikes Peak region, raising millions of dollars for art causes and bringing some of wine's biggest names and wineries to Colorado Springs. The featured guests this year include South African **Peter Koff**, who has earned two very special distinctions in the wine world: becoming a Cape Wine Master in 1984, one of only five in South Africa at the time; and then qualifying as a Master of Wine in 1993, one of just 12 in the United States at that time.

Featured Guests

Jim Clarke	<i>Wines of South Africa</i>	Wines of South Africa
Peter Clinton	<i>Vinnovative Imports</i>	Vinnovative Imports
Alister Glen	<i>Douglas Green-Bellingham</i>	DGB
Peter Koff, MW	<i>Fairest Cape Beverage Company</i>	Fairest Cape
Scott High	<i>Southern Starz/Classic Wines</i>	Southern Starz Wines
Berenice Wallace	<i>Savanha Wines</i>	Spier Wines

EVENT SPONSORS

This event is made possible by the generous support of the FAC Annual Sponsor, **El Pomar Foundation**; Presenting Sponsors, **Porsche of Colorado Springs** and the **Gazette**; and Founding Sponsors, **Coaltrain Wine & Spirits** and **Cravings**. **KLITE 106.3**, **Blue Fox Photography** and **Jean-Marie Designs** are In-Kind Sponsors.

TICKET INFORMATION

All events are open to the public with FAC Members receiving discounted rates. Reservations are required for all events, except for the Grand Tasting, where walk-ins are accepted.

Call the FAC Box Office at 719.634.5583 to reserve your spot or go online at csfineartscenter.org. Tickets can be purchased by event or via the Gala Festival Package, which includes admission to all events.

Gala Festival Packages

\$300 per FAC member | \$340 per non-member (\$160 tax deductible)

Includes all events. No substitutions, exchanges or refunds.

LODGING

The [Broadmoor Hotel](#) and the [Garden of the Gods Club](#) are offering special room rates. Available on a space available basis; mention "Wine Festival" to make reservations

- \$130 at the Garden of the Gods | Call 719.632.5541
- \$130 at the Broadmoor Hotel | Call 800.634.7711

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

South African Wine Experience

5:30 p.m.

The Broadmoor | 1 Lake Avenue

\$30 per guest (\$15 tax deductible)

Join our South African wine ambassadors for a journey of the palate and the eyes; the perfect preview to this unique weekend. Through their wines and photographs, you will experience the 350-year winemaking tradition of one of the world's most diversely beautiful countries.

Grand Tasting & Wine Market Auction

7:00 p.m.

The Broadmoor | 1 Lake Avenue

\$65 per FAC member | \$75 per non-member | (\$40 tax deductible)

Colorado Springs' best date night! Come join this sell-out event, featuring over 300 wines, plus culinary delights from many of our region's finest restaurants and caterers. Place your bids at the silent Wine Market auction and dance the night away.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

South African Wine, But What Cheese?

10:30 a.m.

Garden of the Gods Club | Sunrise Room | 3320 Mesa Road

\$30 per guest (\$15 tax deductible)

Wine and cheese – a natural combo? Only when paired perfectly. Our experts carefully choose the cheeses that best accompany the wines.

Classic Food & Wine Pairing

12:30 p.m.

Paragon Culinary School | 3125 Sinton Road

\$50 per guest (\$10 tax deductible)

Join **Chef Victor Matthews** at his Paragon Culinary School for this Festival favorite. Structured for elegance and food compatibility, South African wines perfectly fit the bill for this delicious, sell-out luncheon seminar. Chef and our guests, using the flavors of South Africa, will shed light on the art of food and wine pairings.

Gourmet Winemaker Dinner & Live Auction

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. | Live auction at 8:30 p.m.

Garden of the Gods Club | Main Dining Room | 3320 Mesa Road

\$150 per FAC member | \$175 per non-member (\$75 tax deductible)

Dress: Cocktail Attire

The evening begins with a five-course gourmet dinner, each course paired with the elegant wines of our distinguished guests, and concludes with the region's premier live auction of rare collectible wine and wine-related lifestyle packages.