

Press release

Not to be released before: April 24th 2005 / 10:30 a.m.

The ,German Wine Critics Award' is awarded to ,VDP. Die Prädikatsweingüter'

The first ,German Wine Critics Award' presented by the ,Weinfeder e.V. – Federation of German-speaking Wine journalists' on April 24th 2005, was awarded to ,VDP. Die Prädikatsweingüter' during the opening of the ,Mainzer Weinbörse'.

Each year the German-speaking Wine journalists present this award for outstanding achievement and increased promotion of wine quality in the wine world.

There were 4 nominations for this award:

Bund Deutscher Oenologen, Message in a bottle (Young wine producers in Rheinhessen), **TRIAS** (5 wine estates from Franken) and **VDP. Die Prädikatsweingüter**.

Weinfeder President Wolfgang Junglas presented the award to VDP President Michael Prinz zu Salm-Salm.

Laudator and Weinfeder member Rudolf Knoll honoured the VDP in his laudatory on the achievements and accomplishments of the elite wine producers:

I assume, this is not a surprise to anyone, but rather would have been a surprise if the award had gone to somebody else. Then the VDP has well earned this award – above all for their work in the last years. They have made German wine socially accepted abroad. The worldwide ,Riesling-Renaissance' is definitely due partly to the innovation and continued activities of the VDP. Meanwhile even German connoisseurs have begun to realize, that good wine is also produced in their country – the prophet is receiving more appreciation in his own country. Even in the world of politics, the German foreign Minister Joschka Fischer was only a few weeks ago with a delegation of wine-producers in New York. And the German Minister of Agriculture and Consumer-rights, Renate Künast, followed his example and accompanied nine VDP-wine-producers to New York.

A short while ago in an interview in Berlin she mentioned to me about an 'awfully good wine tasting' with a certain Prinz Salm.

Elected in 1990 as VDP-President this has been seen as a stroke of good luck. He has given the federation a professional structure, forged new ways and taken great care that the federation has accomplished better ecological standards in wine growing.

Mainz, 24. April 2005
Wolfgang Junglas
Weinfeder e.V.