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i4c 2013 Keynote Speaker

STEVEN SPURRIER



British-born Steven Spurrier joined the wine trade in London in 1964. He moved to Paris in 1970 where he purchased Les Caves de la Madeleine, a small wine shop in the centre of the city and in early 1973 created L'Academie du Vin, the first independent wine school in France. For the next fifteen years he was deeply involved in all aspects

of the French wine business and in 1988 he was named "La Personnalite de l'Annee (Oenology) for his contributions to French wines. That year he returned to the UK to become an international wine consultant and wine writer.

Author of several books on wine and winner of numerous awards – including "Le Grand Prix de l'Academie Internationale du Vin in 2001, only the third time this has been presented since 1982 - he created and manages the Christie's Wine Course and is Consultant Editor for Decanter Magazine and President of the Circle of Wine Writers. A renowned international palate, he is since 2004 Chairman of the Decanter World Wine Awards, the world's largest wine competition.

"I like Chardonnay and particularly "cool climate" Chardonnay as too much heat in my view unbalances this grape's often difficult-to-seize flavours: it is not an obvious grape and very much respects a long growing season in the vineyard and careful handling in the cellar. Having followed the upward progress of Ontario's Chardonnays in tastings over the years, I am particularly excited about attending the 3rd International Cool Climate Chardonnay Celebration in 2013 and being able to taste these wines "sur place"."

STEVEN SPURRIER
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