



Contact:

Michelle Metter
San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival
619-602-9789
mmetter@worldofwineevents.com

Or

Ellen Adair Wyche
The Wyche Group
404.233.4480
eawyche@thewychegroup.com

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ART WORLD PHENOMENON THOMAS ARVID JOINS FIFTH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO BAY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL AS “CELEBRITY ARTIST”

San Diego, CA (May 6, 2008) – To kick off its fifth Anniversary celebration, producers of the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival (November 12-16, 2008) have named art world phenomenon, Thomas Arvid, as this year’s “Celebrity Artist.” Arvid’s unerring ability to refine a moment will be available for all to see at this year’s Festival through his appearances, signings, and a special VIP table at the Celebrity Chef Luncheon & American Institute of Wine & Food (AIWF) Big Bottle Auction.

“The wine and art world alike have come to revere Thomas Arvid's ability to visualize and chronicle our passions about art and wine,” said Michelle Metter the Festival’s co-producer. “We’re thrilled to have him join us during our Fifth Anniversary celebration and equally as excited to give wine and food enthusiasts the opportunity to meet one of the wine world’s most celebrated artists.”

Arvid’s international appeal has created such demand that his work is represented by over 50 elite art galleries in the US, Canada, and Japan, and collectors are willing to wait years for one of his originals. Influential wineries such as Silver Oak Cellars and Diamond Creek Winery collect Arvid’s work because of his ability to translate the craftsmanship of wine to canvas.

Arvid will share his internationally recognized work with nine lucky guests at the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival with a special VIP seating at his hosted table during the Celebrity Chef Luncheon & AIWF Big Bottle Live Auction.

In addition to the special seating at the AIWF Luncheon, Festival attendees can rub elbows with the artist during the Silver Oak Wine Dinner at Fleming’s on November 13, the Festival’s Reserve Tasting on November 14, at the Grand Event on November 15, and at his gallery appearance at Michael J. Wolf Fine Art also on November 15th.

Tickets for the 5th Annual San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival go on sale June 15, including tickets to Arvid’s table at the AIWF Luncheon. A complete schedule and line up of events will be available at www.worldofwineevents.com beginning June 1. For more information, visit the Web site or call 619-342-7337.

(more)

THOMAS ARVID FINE ART, INC.

With his monumental compositions that capture the delicate beauty of wine and the evocative pleasure of its consumption, Arvid has become synonymous with the wine lifestyle. Inspired by the grace and hospitality of the southern culture in which he lives, Arvid's compositions are an invitation to take the time to appreciate sharing a great bottle and good conversation with friends. With his iconic portrayals of the wine experience in over 50 exclusive galleries in North America and a four year wait for his original works, Arvid has revived the everyday appreciation of wine by capturing the beauty and essence of easy living.

SAN DIEGO BAY WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

The 5th Annual San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival is an international showcase of the world's premier wine and spirits producers, chefs and culinary personalities, and gourmet foods. Held November 12-16, 2008, the event benefits the American Institute of Wine & Food culinary arts scholarship program. Over 700 wines, 60 of San Diego's top fine dining restaurants and 30 gourmet food companies and exhibitors will participate in the 2008 Festival. For more information visit www.worldofwineevents.com.

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