

*Commanderie du Bon Temps  
Médoc et Graves  
Sauternes et Barsac*



*Press Release  
27 June 2013  
Bordeaux, France*

**2013 FÊTE DE LA FLEUR AT CHÂTEAU LAGRANGE  
AN EVENING OF BEAUTY**

*On Thursday 20 June, Château Lagrange opened its doors to 1,500 wine professionals and wine lovers from all over the world to celebrate the traditional and exclusive Fête de la Fleur under the patronage of French film star Carole Bouquet. Also present were actors Anna Mouglalis and Michelle Yeoh, and French football star Christian Karambeu. Despite poor weather, the evening was also a beautiful closing dinner for the Vinexpo exhibition.*

**GUESTS OF HONOUR IN A FLAMBOYANT SETTING**

With the Château walls lit, opera arias playing on the water and fireworks in the gardens, the 1,500 elegantly dressed guests from all over the world were determined not to be put off by the rain. Dinner suits, evening dresses and stiletto heels braved the elements to celebrate the flowering of the vines and the last night of the Vinexpo exhibition.

The evening began with the traditional induction ceremony in front of the chateau. The list of dignitaries was well-filled with ambassadors, influential importers and celebrities. **Carole Bouquet**, patroness of the evening was inducted as *Commandeur d'Honneur*, as were the Malaysian actor **Michelle Yeoh**, who starred recently in Luc Besson's film "The Lady" and **Anna Mouglalis**, the actor and Chanel ambassador.

## **SUNTORY'S PROMISING INVOLVMENT IN CHÂTEAU LAGRANGE IS ALREADY 30 YEARS OLD**

Château Lagrange has been owned by the Japanese group Suntory since 1983, so this event was also an opportunity to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the acquisition of the estate by one of the leading wine and spirits distributors worldwide. The 2013 Fête de la Fleur was organised with minute precision under the watchful eye of the Director of the estate, Bruno Eynar. And despite the rain, the magic of the setting was not in the least impaired.

### **JAPANESE COLOUR IN THE PLATES ...**

After cocktails, the guests sat down at beautifully laid tables set with fine porcelain and crystal glasses in the chateau cellars for a dinner of great sophistication. Lagrange honoured the occasion very generously. The meal was concocted by the starred Parisian chef Frédéric Simon and executed to perfection by the Bordeaux caterers Monblanc. Outstanding!

The dishes served, married the refinement of both Japanese and French cultures, and were matched with great vintages: lobster served on a slice of daikon white radish with Château Fieuzal 2010, followed by Aquitaine beef with grated summer truffle and new potatoes served with Château Lafon-Rochet 2003 and magnums of Château Lagrange 1995; puff pastry with Pyrenean goat “*tomme*” cheese served with magnums of Château Lafite Rothschild 1990, and a light sugar opaline for dessert accompanied by a Château Suduiraut 2001.

### **... AND FLORAL DECORATIONS**

There was also a very clear Japanese feel conveyed by the magnificent flower arrangements designed by Rica Arai, a specialist in Japanese Ikebana floral art. Bouquets of white peonies, Vanda orchids and Lisianthus flowers brought harmony and serenity to the setting. The cellars had been literally transformed for the evening with a light-coloured carpet, grey linen tablecloths and upholstery and soft table lamps and lighting, which contributed to a warm, refined atmosphere.

Monblanc, the caterers marshalled 200 waiters, while 80 cellar masters from different Medoc, Graves and Sauternes chateaux had been called in by the Commanderie du Bontemps. They made a theatrical, almost military entrance to the applause of the guests.

## PHOTOS OF THE 2013 FÊTE DE LA FLEUR



*Château Lagrange, a Saint Julien Grand Cru Classé*



*The cellar masters march towards the cellars*



*Dinner in the cellars of Château Lagrange - 150 tables*



*Carole Bouquet*



*Anna Mouglalis with Emmanuel Cruse and Philippe Tapie*



*Michelle Yeoh*

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