

Biltmore
CORAL GABLES ~ MIAMI

PRESS ROOM

THE BILTMORE INTERNATIONAL FOOD & WINE WEEKEND

*A three-day celebration featuring All Reserve, Single Vineyard & Upper Tier Wines
Showcasing more than 20 of South Florida's top culinary talents
and internationally acclaimed chefs*

Presented by The Cellar Club at The Biltmore and Wine Spectator

May 5th, 6th & 7th, 2006

Coral Gables, FL. (February 7, 2006)—With an uncommon zest for bringing cheer, The Cellar Club at The Biltmore, in cooperation with Wine Spectator magazine, presents the **Tenth Annual Biltmore International Food & Wine Weekend, (May 5-7, 2006)** to benefit the **University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center**. The annual extravaganza, which has raised more than \$6 million in support of South Florida charities, is the only major festival in the country to feature all Reserve, Single Vineyard & Upper Tier wines, along with a cast of international and local celebrity chefs and world-renowned winemakers.

The Biltmore International Food and Wine Weekend's three glorious days of continuous food, wine and entertainment, kicks off on Friday, May 5th with the 3rd Annual Anne Bennett Memorial Golf Classic. Following the Golf Classic is the Grand Wine & Food Tasting featuring more than 20 award-winning restaurants, over 70 wineries, and Musical Journey by South Beach DJ Pierre Zonzon. The evening culminates with the wildly popular Wine & Giggles comedy show hosted this year by celebrity comedienne Joy Behar of ABC TV's "The View."

The Grand Wine & Food Tasting is a true sampling of the finest wines available and best foods from Miami's hottest dining spots including: Azul, Blu, Blue Door at Delano, Brasserie Les Halles, Chef Adam, China Grill and Dragon, Joe's Stone Crab, 1200 Courtyard Grill, La Cofradia, Max's Grille, Mendoza Restaurant, Ola Steak, Ortanique on the Mile, Palme d'Or, Shula's Steak House, Social at Sagamore, The Biltmore, Trattoria Sole, and Tuscan Steak, just to name a few.

Saturday's festivities will include the spectacular Winemaker Dinner with acclaimed superstar chefs Pilar Sanchez, Executive Chef of Pilar in Napa, California; Govind Armstrong, Executive Chef of Table 8 in Los Angeles, California; and Roland Passot, Chef/Proprietor of La Folie in San Francisco, California. The Champagne reception and gourmet dinner will be highlighted with a live musical performance by Cuban singing sensation Albita.

Sunday, May 7th the Celebrity Chefs Interactive Culinary Luncheon and Silent Auction features the celebrity chefs as they oversee the preparation of an interactive gourmet lunch. Tables will be hosted by some of the world's most distinguished wineries.

The weekend will also be of particular appeal to wine collectors and connoisseurs from around the world. Guests may even purchase wines at the Grand Tasting at special prices. The primary motivation of The Biltmore International Food & Wine Weekend will, as always, be philanthropic – with a secondary commitment to the celebration and showcasing of unparalleled gastronomic excellence.

SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS:

Friday, May 5th

Annual Anne Bennett Memorial Golf Classic, Scramble Format

8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start, Biltmore Golf Course - 144 players
\$150 per player, \$600 per foursome, \$1,000 per corporate sponsor (foursome)

Grand Wine & Food Tasting & Musical Journey by South Beach DJ Pierre Zonzon

Featuring more than 70 wineries and specialty dishes from over 20 of South Florida's finest chefs.

Trade Tasting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.; VIP & Press Access 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

General Audience 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

Country Club Ballroom

VIP \$125, Cellar Club Members \$65, Non-members \$75

Wine and Giggles with Celebrity Comedienne Joy Behar

Stand-up Comedy Performance in a nightclub setting.

Show begins at 9:30 p.m., Granada Ballroom

Cellar Club Members \$75, Non-members \$95

Saturday, May 6th

Winemaker Dinner & Live Musical Performance by Albita

Five courses prepared by internationally acclaimed chefs

Pilar Sanchez, Executive Chef of Pilar in Napa, California; Govind Armstrong, Executive Chef of Table 8 in Los Angeles, California; and Roland Passot, Chef/Proprietor of La Folie in San Francisco, California.

Each winery will host a table.

Reception begins at 7:00 p.m., Country Club Ballroom

Cellar Club Members \$175, Non-members \$195

Sunday, May 7th

Celebrity Chefs Interactive Culinary Luncheon and Silent Auction

Celebrity chefs Pilar Sanchez, Executive Chef of Pilar in Napa, California, Govind Armstrong, Executive chef of Table 8 in Los Angeles and Roland Passot, Chef/Proprietor of La Folie in San Francisco, California direct guests (from ballroom stage)

in the preparation of a gourmet lunch. Each winery will host a table.

Reception begins at noon. Country Club Ballroom

Cellar Club Members \$125, Non-members \$150

Weekend Packages & Ticket Information

Hotel packages for the Biltmore International Food and Wine Weekend are available starting from \$750 per person, per night. These weekend packages include deluxe accommodations and tickets to the signature events. For further information on these hotel packages, please call 1-800-915-1926 or visit www.biltmorefestival.com

For further information about the schedule of events and individual tickets, contact the Cellar Club at 305-445-8066, ext. 2095 or visit www.biltmorefestival.com.

About UM/Sylvester

UM/Sylvester opened in 1992 to provide comprehensive cancer services and today serves as the hub for cancer-related research, diagnosis, and treatment at the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. UM/Sylvester handles 1,400 inpatient admissions annually, performs 3,000 surgical procedures, and treats 3,000 new cancer patients. All UM/Sylvester physicians are on the faculty of the Miller School of Medicine, South Florida's only academic medical center. In addition, UM/Sylvester physicians and scientists are engaged in 200 clinical trials and receive more than \$31 million annually in research grants. UM/Sylvester at Deerfield Beach recently opened to better meet the needs of residents of Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

This 10,000 square-foot facility at I-95 and S.W. 10th Street offers appointments with physicians from six cancer specialties, complementary therapies from the Courtelis Center, and education and outreach events. <http://www.sylvester.org>.

About the Cellar Club

South Florida's premier private wine society, The Cellar Club at The Biltmore is dedicated to the appreciation of fine wine and food. To that end, its more than 1300 members are presented with exclusive monthly epicurean events and are accorded special privileges throughout the Biltmore. Originally founded in February 1995 as a club for oenophiles interested in the studious pursuit of greater wine knowledge, it has evolved into a more socially oriented organization devoted to the exploration and enjoyment of the world's viniculture and food ways. As such, The Cellar Club has helped maintain the Biltmore's historic role as an epicenter of local social life and has become an important attraction for hotel guests, who chose to upgrade and enjoy certain privileges during their stay. For further information, visit www.TheCellarClub.com.

About The Biltmore

The Biltmore, Miami's historic landmark resort, features luxurious accommodations and exceptional facilities for social events, high tech meetings, and celebrations. Highlights include the 18-hole, Donald Ross-designed golf course, elegant new Spa, fitness center, 10 lighted tennis courts, seven distinct restaurants and bars, open-air courtyards, luscious gardens and fountains, and colossal pool with private cabanas. The Biltmore is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World, Leading Spas of the World, and National Trust Historic Hotels of America.

