

# The Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation Announces their "Masters of Arts" Dinner

GREENSBORO, Ga., - On Wednesday, April 8, The Ritz-Carlton Lodge will host the definitive dining event of the 2009 Masters Tournament season, featuring very special guests: golf club designer Scotty Cameron, wine artist Thomas Arvid and Larry Maguire, President, COO and Partner of Far Niente Winery.

The "Masters of Arts" dinner celebrates the talent and passion of these three dynamic artists and includes a gourmet wine dinner. Just 100 reservations will be taken for this ultra-elite evening. The intimate scale of the event presents a rare opportunity for guests to meet and socialize with the most respected, knowledgeable and creative individuals in the golf, art and wine industries, while connecting to the art of Scotty Cameron and Thomas Arvid, as original works will be on display during the event.



The evening begins with a dinner reception at 7 p.m. followed by a seated 4-course meal created and presented

by the award-winning Ritz-Carlton Lodge culinary team. Each course will feature a different Far Niente wine specially selected to complement the dish. The evening culminates in a creative conversation highlighting the synergy of these specialized artisans. The price is \$235 (plus tax gratuities) per person. Advance reservations are required, and subject to space availability, by calling (706) 467-7135.

Considered one of the United States' premier golf destinations, The Ritz-Carlton Lodge on Lake Oconee sets a shimmering backdrop for a 2009 Masters Tournament experience. Days and nights at The Ritz-Carlton Lodge during Masters Week will offer a long list of activities and amusements for guests who will also enjoy the comforts of the Five Diamond resort, just an hour from Augusta National.

The Masters of Arts Dinner, an exclusive Masters Week event that celebrates the artistry of golf, food, art and wine.

### **Special Guests**

## **Scotty Cameron**

The putter has long-been the most personal club in any golfer's bag, and Scotty Cameron has always felt that every player develops a special relationship with his putter. With this unifying ideal, Scotty has spent his lifetime handcrafting putters of unique significance for weekend warriors to the world's very best. To this day, the award-winning American craftsman can be found up to his elbows in metal, milling, grinding and hand-shaping new designs, creating high performance, world-renowned putters of extraordinary distinction.

From early childhood when he and his father would machine prototype putters in the garage to his multi-million-dollar Putter Studio where he designs the finest milled putters today, Scotty masterfully blends design and craftsmanship in the pursuit of his passion for the art of putting. His passion for metalwork has also translated beyond putters to abstract sculpture, a recent foray that has already garnered international acclaim.

As a lifelong putter maker whose career spans over 30 years in the golf industry, Scotty maintains a hands-on approach to making putters for the top players in the game. With over 600 worldwide wins on various professional tours, more major championship wins than any other putter maker in the modern era, and a tireless determination to

always "find a better way," the name Scotty Cameron has become synonymous with excellence in putters.

For this self-made golf industry icon, the putter is not only another club in the bag. It's the reason he's here. It's also the reason why a museum in Japan—the Scotty Cameron Museum & Gallery—was designed solely to display his work. And the reason thousands upon thousands of players, collectors and putter aficionados alike value his work for the art it is.

#### **Thomas Arvid**

Thomas Arvid has achieved spectacular success and national acclaim with his still-life compositions of wine and the rituals surrounding its consumption. The self-taught artist translates abstract composition and a talent for portraying light and color into sumptuous, super-realistic oil paintings of wine. Atlanta-based Thomas Arvid unites the aesthetics of art and the sensual complexity of fine wine in his large-scale paintings that leave collectors and critics begging for more.

Arvid's talent has been embraced by the art world. Named one of the top "25 Artists You Should Know" by US Art magazine, Arvid's work receives critical acclaim for its ability to capture ancient traditions in a startlingly new style. Thomas Arvid was also featured in Wine Spectator, recognizing the overlap between the appreciation of fine art and fine wine.

Not bad for a Detroit boy with no formal art training who never expected to make fine art a career. Arvid moved to Atlanta from Detroit in 1986 and discovered alternatives to the industrial, blue collar work ethic of his home. Growing up drawing, painting murals, and doing illustrations, Thomas Arvid thought his only choices for a career in art were as a commercial artist, sign-painter, or draftsman. His move to Atlanta also signaled a move into painting with oils, and eventually his discovery of the beauty of wine as a vehicle for his artistic vision.

Thomas Arvid's natural charisma and infectious enthusiasm for art and wine guarantee his continued success and popularity. Arvid's work and philosophy is perfectly embodied in his famous phrase, "Life without art is like dinner without wine. Why bother?"

## **Larry Maguire**

The California native took his first job in the wine industry with Napa Valley's Franciscan winery in 1975. Beginning in the winery's tasting room, he then moved into sales and marketing, where he learned the intricacies of the fine wine industry. At about the same time that Maguire was honing his skills in sales and marketing management, Gil Nickel was laying the groundwork to turn Far Niente into a world-class Napa Valley wine estate. Maguire joined Nickel and his fledgling winery in 1983, charged with developing the winery's marketing and sales strategy. In 1991, Maguire was named a partner and appointed managing director of Far Niente. In 1997 he became president and CEO of Far Niente. Maguire was named vice chairman of Far Niente and its sister wineries Dolce and Nickel & Nickel in 2008.

Under Maguire's leadership, Far Niente has grown from being a small, locally known winery into a critically acclaimed luxury producer. The wines are marketed in the finest wine circles in the United States and several foreign countries. Passionate about wine, he regularly visits the great wine regions of the world, tasting in the cellars and homes of some of Europe's most acclaimed vintners.

A graduate of St. Mary's College of California with a degree in Economics, Maguire has also completed marketing strategy courses at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He is a former instructor of wine education at Napa Valley College; a past president and current member of the board of directors of the Oakville Winegrowers Association; a past Baille of the Napa Valley chapter of the Confrérie de la Chaîne des Rôtisseurs; and a past member of the board of directors for the Wine Service Co-op.