

Jazz — A Perfect Pitch of Music and Wine

I was eager upon learning about the plan to set up a number of wine bars throughout the Jazz Festival venue, not only to see how it would work, but to observe how the crowd would react. To some it was just another bar, walking up to the counter and asking for all sorts of drinks. For wine lovers it was an oasis that they approached slowly looking up and down the structure, carefully looking at the wines and reading the very large wine list that was about five feet or so high; smiles all around and then they would make their order. Wines were sold by the bottle and by the glass, and when the dust finally settled at the end of this the largest jazz and blues event, approximately 2,000 bottles of wines were sold overall; up from about 300 last year. Indeed, beverage arrangements were tighter this year: one official wine supplier, one official juice supplier, etc. But to those who are still asking if wine is taking off in Jamaica, my emphatic response is: Yes!

Fresh from delivering a technology presentation at the Cisco Networking Academy held at the beautiful Cardiff Hotel and Spa, I grabbed my trusty Nikon and headed to The Greenfield Stadium to snap a few shots of the wine scene at the 2012 staging of Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival. Here are the highlights.

Chris Reckord — Entrepreneur & Wine Enthusiast. Send your questions and comments to creckord@gmail.com.

Follow us on

<http://twitter.com/DeVineWines>



<http://activepaper.olivesoftware.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=JObserver&BaseHref=JMO%2F2012%2F02%2F02&ViewMode=HTML&PageLabel=8T&EntityId=Ar04000&AppName=1>

2012 February 2

I popped into the Jamaica Broilers skybox to find team members and guests enjoying Robert Mondavi wines — (from left) Andrew Allen, Wendy McMaster, Kim Mair, Guillermo Calucho, Ray McMaster, Oliver Mair, Cordia Panton-Williams and Hope Chang.



Walter Elmore (left), chairman of Art of Music Productions (AMP), organiser of the event, sipping vino with Select Brands' Debra and David McConnell.



Delighted to find a full wine bar with a number of his favourites, budding wine connoisseur Haresh Ramchandani, with his lovely wife Vindu, grabbed a glass of red on arrival.



Opposition Leader and Member of Parliament Andrew Holness shares lens time with Flow exec Denise Williams (left) and Island Grill boss Thalia Lyn.



Flow's Makeba Bennett-Easy (left) and Heineken Brand Manager Nasha-Monique Douglas chill in the Flow skybox with glasses of merlot.



Attorney-at-law Stacy Earl, Dimitri Konidis (left) and Raj B top up their glasses at the Select Brands Wine Bar.



Select Brands Wine Ambassadors Racquel Creighton (left) and Sophia Clarke come back to base to stock up on wines and stemware before they hit the crowd selling glasses of wine to every and anyone who glances at them.

<http://activepaper.olivesoftware.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=JObserver&BaseHref=JMO%2F2012%2F02%2F02&ViewMode=HTML&PageLabel=8T&EntityId=Ar04000&AppName=1>

2012 February 2



Flying in from The Bahamas for the show, Lynn Gibson (left) and Ginette Brown grab a bottle of Catena Malbec.



<http://activepaper.olivesoftware.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=JObserver&BaseHref=JMO%2F2012%2F02%2F02&ViewMode=HTML&PageLabel=8T&EntityId=Ar04000&AppName=1>

2012 February 2

CGM Gallagher VP Business Development Sheraley Bridgeman with CGM client Paul Marshalleck of John's Hall Aggregates Ltd.



We were not so sure if he was going as far as Mandeville, but Paul Fraser surely did not want to make too many trips back to the wine bar.



We turned up just in time to catch Bunny Gardener filling his glass with Robert Mondavi Napa Valley Pinot Noir, a really great wine although a bit more elegant and complex than the [Yellowtail] merlot he is used to drinking.



Vino all around, making new friends, while hanging out at the wine bar — Kerri-Anne Reckord (right) meets up with Barry Thomas and Marie Yap.



Even though you are part of a fabulous fun skybox, every now and then you take a chill out break. We caught (from left) Lorna Myers, Anup Chandiram and Debbie Stewart doing just that.



GraceKennedy Chairman Douglas Orane dropped by to secure his glass of red wine.



In the Party Playhouse skybox, Michael and Angie Ammar — red wine in hand — get ready for a long night of partying.

ERROR: stackunderflow
OFFENDING COMMAND: ~

STACK: