



MELBOURNE FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCE SOME “LOCAL” LEGENDSMarch 2008

Each year since its inception in 1993 the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival has honoured notable individuals as Festival legends, people who have contributed to the food, wine and hospitality industries far beyond the course of their normal business.

In 2008, for their work in the city of Melbourne and the State of Victoria, Ballarat Residents, Luigi and Athalie Bazzani have both been nominated as the first country recipients ever to receive a Legends Award.

Luigi and Athalie have owned Warrenmang Vineyard & Resort for 30 years and were responsible for introducing the concept of drinking regional wines in regional restaurants when they established their famous La Scala Restaurant in Lydiard Street Ballarat in the 1980's.



Luigi Bazzani, Lord Mayor of Melbourne – Cr John So, Athalie Bazzani

The two have promoted regional food, wine and tourism throughout the Goldfields, in Melbourne and in Geelong over the past 40 years and continue to win major awards for their regional wines and hospitality.

Warrenmang Vineyard is on the Great Grape Touring Route which incorporates the wineries of Ballarat, the Pyrenees and the Grampians, a tourism attraction which draws many international visitors into the three regions.

Luigi and Athalie formally received their Legends Award from the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Cr John So at the ABC rooftop studios in Melbourne on Thursday 28th February in the company of Victoria's food and wine luminaries.. Other Legends inducted were Michel Roux of the famous London based Roux Brothers restaurant Waterfront, highly regarded chef, teacher and author Chef Damian Pignolet and Abba Amad owner and chef of Abba's acclaimed Lebanese restaurant in Carlton for 30 years.

Luigi and Athalie Bazzani are celebrating their 30th year at Warrenmang in 2008 and to mark the milestone, Luigi has released a limited release super premium wine “Luigi – “TRIBUTE” which is the third in a series of commemorative Luigi labelled wines. Luigi says this hand crafted wine is so exceptional, it will become a legend too!

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