



The Chicago Independent Spirits Expo Returns for a 7th year on Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017 at the Chicago Hilton Hotel

For the 7th year, the world largest gathering of small, independent & artisanal brands will converge on Chicago, much to the delight of spirits enthusiasts everywhere. What started out as just three small brands conducting a tasting in a bar in New York City over 10 years ago has now grown to become one of the most anticipated underground spirit tastings on the planet. The brainchild of Dave Schmier, former owner of Redemption Rye & Temptation Bourbon whiskey brands, and Martin C. Duffy, U.S. Brand Representative for Glencairn Crystal and former Sr. Masters of Whisky for Diageo, the Indie Spirit Expos have taken place in San Francisco, New York City, Las Vegas and New Orleans (during the fabled Tales of the Cocktail week). However, the Windy City hosts the grandest one of them all!

The CISE provides members of the service industry as well as consumers an opportunity to meet the new wave of creative & innovated distillers, bottlers, importers and distributors as they sample & speak about their spirits. Attendees will be able to choose from over 600 spirits within the major liquor categories of vodka, gin, rum, tequila, mescal, whisk(e)y, liqueurs and even unique drink mixers from around the world.

According to Mr. Schmier, "The Chicago Indie Spirits Expo is a direct response to both the growing interest in craft spirits among consumers and the growth of craft distillers and other spirits entrepreneurs." Co-producer Martin Duffy, after experiencing Schmier's New York event in 2011, convinced his friend to bring his Indie Spirits Expo to the City of Big Shoulders. "Chicago has always been a progressive drinking town, so it only seemed logical to bring this event here and make it the biggest and best event of its kind", said Duffy. "Plus, it is a great chance to highlight the best of the Midwest's own burgeoning distilling community."

The 2016 Chicago Independent Spirits Expo featured over 150 exhibitors sampling over 600 different artisanal and independent spirits from all over the world (The USA, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, France, Mexico, the Caribbean, South America, Japan, India, Australia, New Zealand, etc.) to over 1200 key bartenders, F&B managers, bar owners, distributors, importers, retailers and spirit aficionados coming from all over the North, Central & South America as well as Europe & Asia.

Just some of the brands that will be showcased this year ~

A.D. Laws Straight Four Grain Bourbon,
Secale Straight Rye Whiskey
Amaro Cinpatrazzo
American Craft Brandy Immature Brandy
Floodwall Apple Blue Chair Bay Rum
Brandy
Unaged Apple Brandy Butchertown
Reserve Cask Brandy
Absinthe Blance
Amrut, Stalk & Barrel
Blackadder
Five Lions
Lady of The Glen
Mahon
Armorik
Jean Filliou
Du Peyrat
Normandin
Delord
Duffau
Dartigalongue
Artez
Roger Groult
Claque Pepin
Diplôme
La Muse Verte
Jules Theuriet
Jahiot
Aroma Academy
Arte
NOM 1579 BlancoArte
NOM 1549 BlancoArte
NOM 1414 ReposadoArte
NOM 1146 Anejo
Fuenteseca Cosecha Blanco

Don Amado Rustico
Don Amado Reposado
Don Amado Pechuga
Aviation American Gin
Sombra Mezcal
Astral Tequila
Balcones 'T' Texas Single Malt Brimstone
Barr Hill by Caledonia Spirits
Barrow's Intense Ginger Liqueur
Belle Meade Bourbon
Bitter Ex Bitters
Bittercube
Bullseye Bourbon
Sfumato
OOLA Gin
Black Bull, Big Smoke
Tequila Villa Lobos
Scottish Glory Scotch Whisky
Indian Summer Gin
Black Dog Vodka
Black Dog Lavender Vodka
Black Dog Vanilla Vodka
Black Dog 100 Rum
Bluebird Distilling
Four Grain Bourbon
Rye Whiskey
Wheat Whiskey
Juniperus Gin
American Whiskey
Bourbon Spring, Laughton Bros., N.A.
Steamship Rye, Water Tower on Fire, Old
No. 176, Groninger Hoek, Prairie Sunshine
Brenne French Single Malt whisky
Brumby Cowboy Butterscotch & Cream
Liqueur

Cardinal Spirits
Cedar Ridge Iowa Whiskey
CH Distillery
Chase Vodka
Claddagh Irish Whiskey
Cleveland Whiskey
Clyde Mays Alabama Whiskey
Cody Road Bourbon, Rye, River Pilot
Vodka, River Rose Gin, Iowish Cream
Liqueur
Copper Fiddle Distillery
Copper Fox Rye Whiskey
De Borgen New Style Genever
Edgewater Candles
Edinburgh Gin
Pig's Nose Scotch
Sheep Dip Blended Malt
The Feathery Blended Malt
Chartreuse Green & Yellow
El Buho Mezcal
FEW Spirits
Giffard Liqueurs & Mezcals
Vermouth Routin
Glacier Cocktail Ice
Glendalough Irish Distillery
Glengoyne Single Malt Scotch
Grander 8 & 12 Year Old Rum
Greenhouse Artisan Gin
Japnese whiskys - Iwai tradition, Akashi,
Akashi single malt, Ichiro malts
J Henry & Sons WI Straight Bourbon
John Drew Rye
Brixton Mash Destroyer
Dove Tale Rum
Journeyman Distillery

Kalak Single Malt Vodka
 Hyde Irish Whiskey
 Blaum Bros. Distillery
 Koskenkorva Vodka
 Kerrgold Irish Cream Liquor
 Templeton Rye
 Santo Mezquila
 KOVAL
 Kyoto Gin Kinobi
 Vanagandr Spanish Gin
 Ichiro's Malt & Akashi Japanese Malts
 Sherries: Manzanilla Papirusa, Puerto Fino, Fino Jarana, Los Arcos Amontillado, Escudilla Rare Amontillado, Peninsula Palo Cortado, Don Nuno Oloroso, Eperatriz Eugenia Very Rare Oloroso, San Emilio Pedro Ximenez, Moscatel Emilin, East India Solera, Rojo Vermut, Solera Gran Reserva Brandy de Jerez
 Maplewood Brewery & Distillery-Various whiskies and beers
 Mezcal Noble Coyote
 MILLA & MAROLO Grappa
 North Shore Vodka, Gins, Bourbon & Rum
 Old Grove Gin
 Three Sheets Rum
 OpahCanned Cocktails- Gin & Tonic- Rum & Ginger- Rum & Cola- Bloody Mary
 Old Monroe Bourbon & Wheat Whiskey
 Unbroken Vodka
 Pecan Pie Flavored Whiskey
 Lemon Drop Flavored Whiskey
 Oma's Cherry Infused Vodka
 Palm Bay Imports
 Parce Rum
 Park Cognac - Park
 Pineau des Charentes
 Peychauds Aperitivo

Glenfarclas
 Dimmi
 Bittermens
 Philadelphia Distilling
 Pickett's Ginger Beer
 Belgin Gin
 Bravewood whisky
 Beliq Liqueurs
 Rabbit Hole Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey
 Rabbit Hole Kentucky Straight Rye Whiskey
 Rabbit Hole Straight Bourbon Finished in PX Sherry Casks
 Rabbit Hole London Dry Gin Finished in Rye Barrels
 RAFT Essentials Syrups
 RAFT Botanical Syrups
 The Bitter Housewife Bitters
 Redemption Whiskies
 Rendle's Original Gin
 Rhum Clement Rhum
 Rider Vodka
 Long Shot White Whiskey, Reserve Bourbon
 Reunion Rye, Barrel Strength Reunion Rye
 Ron Cartavio Rum
 Demetrio Premium Tequila, Antagonic Gin, Ron Duran Rum
 Santiago Queirolo Pisco
 Intipalka Pisco
 Rough Rider Double Cask Bourbon
 Rough Rider Three Barrel Rye
 Rough Rider Big Stick
 Rough Rider Happy Warrior
 Pine Barrens Single Malt

Pine Barrens Gin
 Sagamore Rye 83 proof
 Sagamore Cask Strength
 Sagamore Double Oak*
 Sagamore Moscatel Finish
 Scorpion Mezcal
 ESCORPION Mezcals, Sierra Norte Mexican Whiskies
 Smokehead, Spey
 Six Isles
 Macleod Range single malt Scotch Soap Distillery
 Sonoma County Distillery whiskeys
 SoulBoxer Bourbon Old Fashioned
 SoulBoxer Brandy Old Fashioned
 Spice Note Infused Tequilas
 Tahoe Blue Vodka
 Tailwinds and Tailedragger
 Tanduay Asian Rum
 The Real McCoy Rum - 3 Year Aged White
 The Real McCoy Rum - 5 Year Aged
 The Real McCoy Rum - 12 Year Aged Tiburon Rum
 Top Note Tonics
 Traverse City Whiskey Co.
 Tru Organic Vodka
 Sixa Organic Tequilas
 Crusoe Organic Rums
 Fruitlab Organic Liqueurs
 Grand Poppy Organic Amaro
 City Organic Gins
 Bar Keep Organic Bitters
 Virginia Highland Malt Whisky
 Whiskey Acres Bourbon, Rye, Vodka & Artisan Series
 Widow Jane Distillery
 and much, much more to come!

THE INDUSTRY ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION ~

A feature unique to the Chicago Indie Spirits Expo each year is The industry roundtable Discussions. Held the afternoon of the Expo in The Buckingham Room of the Chicago Hilton Hotel & Tower, the industry round table discussion (12 noon to 2pm) is a select panel of spirit professionals from various levels of the spirits industry who discuss the current trends, topics, opportunities and challenges that face small spirits brands in the current market place. These round table discussions are open only to VIP ticket holders, exhibitors and media.

Dave "Always the Bridesmaid, never the Moderator" Schmier invites you to join him as he finally helms the 2017 Chicago Independent Spirits Expo's annual Industry Round Table Discussion.

Joining Dave will be an elite panel of drink professionals from every level of the drink world - mixologists, distributors, retailers, distillers & spirit writers. Get their take on the hot button topics facing those involved with making, selling and drinking adult beverages of every kind.

Panelists will include such libation luminaries as:

- Dave Schmier ~ Brand Owner, Deadwood Bourbon
- Monique Huston ~ National Director of Winebow
- Paul Hletko ~ Founder of FEW Spirits
- Joshua Morton ~ Owner of Barrow's Intense Ginger Liqueur
- Jason Griffin ~ Dir. of Brand Development for Thoroughbred
- Brett Pontoni ~ Spirits Buyer for Binny's Beverage Depot
- Josh Wortman ~ NA Portfolio Director for Distill Ventures
- Brian Christensen - Editor of Artisanal Spirit Magazine
- Sean Ludford - Editor at BevX.com
- Aaron Zacharias - Bar Owner, Fountainhead Chicago/Market

The IRTD kicks off the day promptly at 12noon. Admittance is limited to exhibitors, media and VIP Ticket Holders.

Note: The panel discussion will be followed immediately by Founder Stories: In Your Own Words presented by Distill Ventures - https://www.facebook.com/events/341168559654626/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%223%22%2C%22ref_newsfeed_story_type%22%3A%22regular%22%2C%22feed_story_type%22%3A%2222%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22null%22%7D

FOR TICKETS ~

Tickets for the Chicago Independent Spirits Expo include two options:

VIP ticket ~ \$85.00 ~ allows access to the round table discussions, seminars plus early admission to the tasting session at 4:30pm.

General Admission ticket ~\$65.00 ~ grants you entry to the tasting session from 6:30pm to close at 9:00pm.

A portion of all ticket sales will go to our charitable partner.

Purchase Tickets here ~ <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-chicago-indie-spirits-expo-tickets-31405877826?aff=erelexpmlt>

Independently owned spirits brands can register for a booth here (Must be registered within the State of Illinois) ~

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-chicago-indie-spirits-expo-exhibitor-registration-tickets-31275939176?aff=erelexpmlt>

For press & media passes, please contact the organizers at indiepspirit@gmail.com.

Please visit our Facebook event page for updated brand listings, satellite events and to contact the organizers ~
<https://www.facebook.com/events/780365965453650/>

This is a 21 & over event. Proper state or federal photo I.D. is required. With great spirits comes great responsibility, so always drink responsibly!

Cheers,
Martin C. Duffy
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