

# CATALINA SOUNDS

MARLBOROUGH NEW ZEALAND

23rd November, 2009

## CATALINA SOUNDS WINS CHAMPION SAUVIGNON BLANC TROPHY AT 2009 AIR NEW ZEALAND WINE AWARDS

Catalina Sounds has received international acclaim with the Catalina Sounds Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009 being awarded the CHAMPION SAUVIGNON BLANC TROPHY for BEST SAUVIGNON BLANC OF THE SHOW at the prestigious 2009 Air New Zealand Wine Show.

Organised by New Zealand Winegrowers, the Air New Zealand Wine Awards is the country's leading wine competition. This year's competition saw 1,655 wines entered from the country's key winegrowing regions, with 102 gold medals awarded by the 26-strong judging panel. New Zealand Winegrowers global marketing director Chris Yorke said "this was truly a ground-breaking competition, with remarkable quality shown right across the board."

Sauvignon Blanc was awarded 13 gold medals, illustrating the extremely high quality of the 2009 vintage, with Catalina Sounds being awarded champion status as the competitions leading Sauvignon Blanc.

Catalina Sounds' humble winemaker Nina Stocker, ensured all the Catalina Sounds growers shared in the wines' success, confirming on the night that this was an award for all the Catalina Sounds growers too, whilst commenting that her extra efforts to make Sauvignon Blanc with added subtlety and texture had potentially pushed Catalina Sounds over the line. Nina confirmed after the event that "receiving the 2009 Champion Sauvignon Blanc Trophy is an amazing thrill for all of us here at Catalina Sounds. The fact that the panel of judges felt our wine stood out from all the great wines in this class is a huge honour and nice validation of the stylistic direction we are going in".



*Catalina Sounds Winemaker Nina Stocker  
with Brian Slingsby of O-I New Zealand (Trophy Sponsor)*