

## ABOUT DIVINO TUSCANY

Divino Tuscany is a celebration of Tuscan winemaking excellence. The inaugural event to be held in Florence, Italy June 2 – 5, 2011 will bring together the top winemakers from Tuscany who will promote, share and demystify their top rated wines.

James Suckling, former Senior Editor and European Bureau Chief of *Wine Spectator* and one of the world's most influential wine critics, and IMG Artists, one of the leading producers of cultural and lifestyle festivals, including the Tuscan Sun Festival, are collaborating on this signature event. Together, consulting with founding vintners from Antinori, Frescobaldi, Mazzei, Ricasoli, Il Borro, Petrolo and Castello Banfi, Divino Tuscany will offer a distinctive program that highlights premium wines in one of the most dramatic vinicultural regions of the world. The unique combination of wine, food, culture and history will be experienced throughout.

In selecting the wines to be showcased in this exclusive event, Suckling reviewed his ratings over the last two decades and based his decisions on merit and high-quality winemaking. Those who know him understand his deep love for great Italian wine. Having lived in Tuscany for over ten years, Suckling has long recognized the need to create a premium wine event like Divino Tuscany.

Over the course of four incredible days, attendees will experience grand tastings, seminars, special dinners and entertainment - everything about Divino Tuscany has been designed with the highest level of excellence in mind, from the selection of wines to the locations.

For more information on Divino Tuscany, visit [www.DivinoTuscany.com](http://www.DivinoTuscany.com)



## STATEMENT FROM JAMES SUCKLING

Welcome to Divino Tuscany!

The four-day event is the realization of my dream since moving to live in Tuscany in 1998 as the European Bureau chief of *The Wine Spectator* magazine. The idea is simple: The world must come to Florence to celebrate the best in Tuscan wine as well as food, entertainment, art, culture and history. There's no place on earth like Florence.

As a wine critic and journalist, I have rated and reported on Tuscany since 1983. The improvements in viticulture and winemaking over those three decades have been nothing short of phenomenal. It is hard to think of an area in the world that is making as exciting and diverse red wines. Names such as Masseto, Sassicaia, Solaia, Casanova di Neri and Valdicava are now whispered in the same breath as the best reds from France, Spain, the United States or anywhere else in the world.

For Divino Tuscany, I chose the best wineries in the area to pour their top wines from recent and past vintages. My partner in the event, arts and event management company IMG Artists, has organized the best in music, food and entertainment events around the globe. This combination should make Divino Tuscany one of the most memorable and exclusive wine events ever.

Come join us from June 2 - 5 to be part of this special celebration.

- James Suckling



## DIVINO TUSCANY HIGHLIGHTS

- Opening night concert at one of the most beautiful Italian theaters, Teatro della Pergola, featuring superstar violinist Joshua Bell followed by an informal but festive dinner in the Gherardesca garden of the Four Seasons Hotel in Florence.
- Gala dinner at the opulent Palazzo Corsini on the banks of the Arno catered by the legendary Enoteca Pinchiorri, a three star Michelin restaurant in Florence known for its stunning wine cellar and sumptuous cuisine.
- Grand Tastings at the Four Seasons Florence featuring the very best wines from both newer and older vintages of the 50 best wineries in Tuscany poured by the winemakers and proprietors themselves.
- Saturday night dinners in the private Palazzi of the most well-known Tuscan wine families and estates including Antinori, Frescobaldi, Mazzei, Ferragamo, Corsini, Banfi to name a few. The dinners will be hosted by the families, winemakers and owners of the estates themselves, creating the privileged setting of access to these normally private estates.
- Tutored tastings at the gorgeous Palazzo Capponi featuring important topics on Tuscan winemaking led by James Suckling and complemented by his guest panelists and experts.
- Divino Tuscany will close with a relaxed country lunch featuring a traditional Tuscan pig roast hosted by Sting and Trudie Styler at their private villa in the countryside just outside Florence, Il Palagio.



## JAMES SUCKLING BIOGRAPHY



James Suckling is one of today's leading wine critics whose views are read and respected by wine lovers, serious collectors and the wine trade worldwide. Suckling spent nearly 30 years as senior editor and European Bureau Chief of *The Wine Spectator* and European Editor of *Cigar Aficionado*. *Forbes* recently called the Los Angeles-born writer "one of the world's most powerful wine critics."

Suckling developed his taste for great wine thanks in part to his Beverly Hills attorney father, who, as he says, "always drank great wine at home and was happy to share with me at an early age." He left Southern California to attend Utah State University before moving to Madison, WI, to work on a master's degree in journalism. He worked at night as a police reporter for *The Wisconsin State Journal* while attending graduate school during the day.

After returning to Southern California in 1981, Suckling responded to an ad in the *Los Angeles Times*, which the fledgling *Wine Spectator* was looking for an assistant editor. He was hired in San Diego and subsequently relocated to San Francisco with the magazine in 1982.

In 1985, Suckling moved to Paris to establish *Wine Spectator's* European bureau, which put him in the center of European wine production and cemented his relationships with a variety of vintners, as well as contributed to his expanding knowledge of wines throughout the continent. In addition to his duties for the magazine, Suckling during this time wrote his first book, *Vintage Port*, which was



published in 1990. In 1992 after a trip to Cuba, he suggested *Wine Spectator* Publisher Marvin R. Shanken create *Cigar Aficionado*, for which he subsequently became European editor. Not only did he write

about and rate cigars for the magazine, he regularly traveled to Cuba and interviewed celebrities and politicians including Fidel Castro and Ricardo Alarcón, president of Cuba's National Assembly. Over the next 18 years, he established himself as one of the world's foremost writers on vintage Ports, Italian wines, and Bordeaux, as well as cigars and Cuba.

In late 2010, Suckling launched [JamesSuckling.com](http://JamesSuckling.com) a site which evolved from Suckling seeing a need for wine to be communicated in a more modern way. The site offers subscribers high-definition video content shot by James Orr — a Hollywood filmmaker whose work includes *Father of the Bride* and *Mr. Destiny* and whom Suckling met while smoking cigars in Havana in 1995 — and hosted by Suckling that reports on and rates the best wines from around the world. Video tastings, which Suckling conducts in vineyards and cellars with winemakers, give viewers a firsthand account of the wines and allows a more spontaneous style. None of it is scripted," he says. "It's fun, off-the-cuff, and you get to see the people, the place, and the product instead of just trying to imagine what it looks like.

"It's about communicating in a different way that is not one-dimensional," Suckling continues. "We can reach out globally to new audiences and show them exactly where these great wines are coming from." While this includes filming extensively in Europe, the region Suckling has come to know so well, it also incorporates wines and wineries from around the rest of the world, specifically South America and the United States.

Suckling is the father of two children, Jack and [Isabel Suckling](#), a choirgirl signed by record label [Decca](#) in 2010 at age 12, becoming the youngest classical recording artist to date. He currently splits his time between homes in Tuscany and Los Angeles when not on the road shooting content for his website.



## IMG ARTISTS COMPANY DESCRIPTION



**IMG** *Artists*

Dynamic, diverse and innovative, IMG Artists is the global leader in the performing arts management, projects and events business. With offices in the United States, Europe, Middle East and Asia, IMG Artists stays ahead of the curve in the ever-evolving world of arts and entertainment. Since its inception over 30 years ago, IMG Artists has been involved in thousands of tours and events involving some of the world's most prominent artists, ensembles and entertainers.

Amongst its many initiatives, IMG Artists produces the Tuscan Sun Festival, held in Cortona, Italy. Launched in 2003, the Tuscan Sun Festival incorporates an array of activities including musical concerts, fine art exhibitions, culinary events, wine tastings and literary lectures. The Tuscan Sun Festival is the original within a family of annual Sun Festivals produced by IMG Artists - the critically acclaimed Napa Valley Festival del Sole and the Singapore Sun Festival round out the series.

For more information on IMG Artists, visit [www.imgartists.com](http://www.imgartists.com)



## FOUNDING WINERIES



**Lamberto Frescobaldi**  
**Marchesi di Frescobaldi**



**Francesco Ricasoli**  
**Barone Ricasoli**



**Filippo Mazzei**  
**Castello di Fonterutoli Francesco Mazzei**



**Luca Sanjust**  
**Petrolo**



**Piero Antinori**  
**Marchesi Antinori**



**Ferruccio Ferragamo**  
**Il Borro**



**Cristina Mariani**  
**Castello Banfi**



## PARTICIPATING WINERIES

Altesino  
Barone Ricasoli  
Brancaia  
Caparzo  
Casanova di Neri  
Castello Banfi  
Castiglion del Bosco  
Duemani  
Fattoria dei Barbi  
Fattoria di Felsina  
Fattoria Le Pupille  
Fontodi  
I Greppi  
il Palagio  
Mazzei  
Podere Poggio Scalette  
Pricipe Corsini - Le Corti  
Ruffino  
Siro Pacenti  
Tenuta dell'Ornellaia  
Tenuta di Nozzole  
Tenuta Sette Ponti  
Tenute Silvio Nardi  
Tua Rita  
Valdicava

Antinori  
Bibi Graetz - Testamatta  
Caiarossa  
Carpineta Fontalpino  
Castellare di Castellina  
Castelvechio  
Ciacci Piccolomini  
Eredi Fuligni  
Fattoria Casaloste  
Fattoria La Massa  
Fattoria Viticcio  
Gagliole  
Il Borro  
Marchesi di Frescobaldi  
Petrolo  
Poggio Antico  
Riccardo Baracchi  
San Fillippo  
Tenimenti Luigi d'Alessandro  
Tenuta di Biserno  
Tenuta San Guido  
Tenuta Vitanza  
Tolaini  
Uccelleria





## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Thursday, June 2, 2011

20:00 – 21:00	<b>Joshua Bell Concert</b>	Teatro della Pergola
21:30 – 24:00	<b>Post-Concert Buffett Dinner</b>	Four Seasons Hotel - Giardino della Gheradesca

### Friday, June 3, 2011

10:00 – 11:00	<b>Brunello Tutored Tasting</b>	Palazzo Capponi All'Annunziata
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Merlot Tutored Tasting</b>	Palazzo Capponi All'Annunziata
12:30 – 18:00	<b>Tuscany's Finest Grand Tasting: Newer Vintages</b>	Four Seasons Hotel
19:00 – 23:00	<b>Divino Tuscany Gala Dinner Specially Prepared by Chef Giorgio Pinchiorri</b>	Palazzo Corsini

### Saturday, June 4, 2011

10:00 – 11:00	<b>Brunello Tutored Tasting</b>	Palazzo Capponi All'Annunziata
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Merlot Tutored Tasting</b>	Palazzo Capponi All'Annunziata
12:30 – 18:00	<b>Tuscany's Finest Grand Tasting: Older Vintages</b>	Four Seasons Hotel
21:00 – 24:00	<b>Palazzi Private Dinners</b>	Various Venues

### Sunday, June 5, 2011

11:00 – 16:00	<b>Traditional Tuscan Pig Roast BBQ Hosted By Sting and Trudie Styler</b>	Il Palagio
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## SELECTED VENUE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Teatro della Pergola**

<http://www.teatrodellapergola.com/>

Located in the center of Florence, this historic opera house delights with an intimate setting perfect for chamber music and theatre alike. Built in 1656, audiences will find this gem the perfect setting for enjoying works from the past and present.

### **Four Seasons, Florence**

<http://www.fourseasons.com/florence/>

Nestled in the heart of one of the culture capitals of the world, The Four Seasons, Florence welcomes guests into its art-filled Renaissance palazzo and centuries-old private garden where they can enjoy all the grace, beauty, and timelessness this majestic city has to offer.

### **Palazzo Capponi**

<http://www.palazzocapponiallannunziata.it/>

This beautiful palace, built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> Century built by Alessandro Capponi, a member of one of the most significant Florentine families, was inspired by the architecture of the rest of the city including the Palazzo Pitti. The inside gallery overlooks one of Florence's most beautiful gardens.

### **Palazzo Corsini**

<http://www.palazzocorsini.it/>

Some of Italy's most famous families have called this place home while some of its most famous artists have adorned the walls and ceilings of this Baroque style masterpiece with works of breathtaking beauty. The grand spaces of the Palazzo Corsini hark back to a more elegant time gone by.

### **Il Palagio**

<http://www.palagioretreats.com/>

Rustic and rural, this blissful retreat offers stunning views that will melt the modern world away and invite in a simpler, more present state of being. Nestled amongst the Tuscan hills, Il Palagio is the ideal setting for enjoying Tuscany in summer.



## WHY FLORENCE?

- Florence is one of the most sought after destinations in the world and the epicenter of Tuscany, considered to be the quintessence of a sophisticated Italian Lifestyle.
- Every year, surveys from the most important international travel publications, rank Florence amongst the most desirable destinations, catching the imagination of a very sophisticated international, independent traveler. The new breed of luxury hotels that have opened in the last 3 years have created the perfect conditions for hosting such visitors.
- Compared to other Italian cities known by the Food and Wine connoisseurs, like Verona or Turin, Florence is a city very well connected to the world, with direct flights from US to Pisa (50 minutes) and to major international destinations via Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London, Munich, Paris or Zurich. High-speed trains connect Florence to Rome and Milan in less than two hours positioning the city today as one of Italy's centers and much easier to reach than ever imagined!
- Living in Tuscany is considered a form of Art and the region and its capital are the perfect witnesses of it. Tuscany is the favorite retreat for a cosmopolitan resident community, as well as world artists and movie stars in search of a balance to their fast-paced lives. Florence is also known for having the highest concentration of art per square mile in the Western World according to UNESCO.
- Florence is a relatively small but cosmopolitan, intimate and manageable city, with stunning locations and palazzi, secret gardens and great artisans. It is the ideal place to establish a new benchmark in the international wine events panorama, thus elevating the Art of Winemaking into a modern form of Culture.
- Florence and its surroundings are home to some of the most ancient wine families in the world - the same families that were dealing with the Medici's more than five centuries ago - beside the new successful winemakers that have redesigned the idea of the Italian Wine in the last 3 decades. Montalcino, Bolgheri, Gaiole in the Chianti Classico region or Montepulciano are synonymous of outstanding wines and Ambassadors for the name of Italy in the world.
- With the election of the new 36-years Major, Mr. Matteo Renzi, the city is living its new *momentum* and a lot of new contemporary places, restaurants, shops, galleries and Museums have opened in the last 2 years, giving the city a new "breezy" air.



## OTHER EVENTS AROUND FLORENCE

### **Il Tesoro Del Cremlino, Museo Degli Argenti - Palazzo Pitti**

[www.unannoadarte.it/presentazione4.html](http://www.unannoadarte.it/presentazione4.html)

May 27- September 11

The Treasures of the Kremlin, featuring the large collection of Russia's oldest museum that gathers royal treasures, objects from the courts, ceremonial items and things linked to Russia's greatest Czars.

### **Fabbrica Europa Festival 2011, Stazione Leopolda**

[www.fabbricaeuropa.ffeac.org](http://www.fabbricaeuropa.ffeac.org)

May 27 - May 28

Closing of the Contemporary and Performing Arts Festival.

### **Identita' Virtuali, Centro di Cultura Contemporanea Strozzi**

[www.strozzina.org/emergingtalents2011/e\\_index.php](http://www.strozzina.org/emergingtalents2011/e_index.php)

May 21 – July 17

CCC Strozzi presents the second edition of the Emerging Talents award, set up by the Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi to draw the attention of critics and of the general public to young artists in Italy today.

### **Firenze Festival Gelato**

[www.firenzegelatofestival.it](http://www.firenzegelatofestival.it)

May 27 - 29

The Festival of the Artisanal Ice cream will take place in many and surprising locations in town - an unique opportunity for ice cream "gelatistas".

### **Picasso, Miro', Dali. Angry Young Men - The Birth Of Modernità, Palazzo Strozzi**

[www.palazzostrozzi.org](http://www.palazzostrozzi.org)

Until 17 July 2011

The exhibition is dedicated to the early work of Picasso, Miró and Dalí, which played a decisive role in the beginning of modern art in Spain

### **Visite Ai Giardini Delle Ville Fiesolane**

[http://www.comune.fiesole.fi.it/contenuti/homepage/Visite\\_giardini%202010.pdf](http://www.comune.fiesole.fi.it/contenuti/homepage/Visite_giardini%202010.pdf)

Mid-April through June

The Comune di Fiesole is organizing a series of visits to gardens in Fiesole, including those of Villa Schifanoia.



**"Variations On The Theme Of Creativity: Scrolls And Curls, Pleats And Geometry In Short" Fondazione Roberto Capucci, Villa Bardini**

[www.fondazionerobertocapucci.com](http://www.fondazionerobertocapucci.com)

Established on September 15, 2005 with the Associazione Civita - which looks after the enhancement of the Italian Cultural Patrimony for about 20 years- the Foundation is aimed at preserving and promoting the knowledge of the work of Roberto Capucci, one of the Masters of Italian Haute Couture.

**Florence Rose Garden**

[www.firenze.net/turismo](http://www.firenze.net/turismo)

Created by architect Giuseppe Poggi in 1865 and commissioned by the municipality of Florence as the city was going to be the new capital of Italy, "Il giardino delle rose" is the one of most beautiful of its kind in Italy. Located underneath Piazzale Michelangelo, with a breathtaking view over the city and the Duomo's cupole, this isn't quite a normal garden. It's a perfect space to chill out and enjoy nature while relaxing and enjoying one of the most magnificent views of Florence.



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