

bon appétit presents
**CHICAGO
GOURMET**

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE IN THE GRAND CRU

The Exclusive Event at Chicago Gourmet Toasts to Shakespeare

Cue the lights! Drama hits the 2016 [Grand Cru](#) at [Bon Appétit presents Chicago Gourmet](#). In addition to some of the world's finest wines, this year's exclusive showcase includes an all-star lineup of participating chefs selected from the [Culinary Complete Works](#), a component of [Chicago Shakespeare Theater's](#) yearlong [Shakespeare 400](#) celebration. Each will present dishes inspired by the works of William Shakespeare, from *Macbeth* to *The Taming of the Shrew* – and everything in between!

“What other artist but Shakespeare could inspire a collaboration between the culinary and theater worlds for an undertaking of the scale of Culinary Complete Works,” said Chicago Shakespeare Theater Creative Producer Rick Boynton. “The talented chefs of the Grand Cru will give Chicago Gourmet attendees a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to taste the passion, humor, love and forgiveness of Shakespeare’s timeless works.”

Earlier this year, the ninth annual *Bon Appétit* presents Chicago Gourmet announced a new theme for 2016—**Food Is Art!**—weaving artistic components of all kinds into the weekend's programming. The Grand Cru is no exception! At the premier “event within the event,” guests will experience samplings of dramatic cuisine and tastings of elite wines from around the world, curated by Master Sommelier Serafin Alvarado of presenting sponsor [Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits](#). He will be joined by a legion of Master Sommeliers from throughout the U.S., including Larry Stone of Quintessa and Huneus Vintners, Joseph Spellman of Justin Winery, Robert Bigelow of Ste Michelle Wine Estates and Alpana Singh, proprietor of The Boarding House, Seven Lions and Terra & Vine.

“Culinary Complete Works is an unprecedented celebration of food and art, showcasing beautiful and thought-inspired dishes from some of Chicago's best chefs,” says Alpana Singh, who curated the program. “The Grand Cru at Chicago Gourmet is the ideal space to highlight this inspired cuisine with rare fine wines from around the world.”

The Grand Cru takes place daily from **2 to 4 p.m. at the Harris Theater Rooftop**. The cast includes:

Saturday, September 24, 2-4 p.m.

- Sarah Grueneberg, [Monteverde](#), *The Comedy of Errors*

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- Perry Hendrix, [avec](#), *The Tempest*
- John Manion, [La Sirena Clandestina](#), *Othello*
- Tony Priolo, [Piccolo Sogno](#), *Triolus and Cressida*
- Bruce Sherman, [North Pond](#), *Much Ado About Nothing*

Saturday, September 25, 2-4 p.m.

- Tanya Baker, [The Boarding House](#), *The Taming of the Shrew*
- Phillip Foss, [EL Ideas](#), *Macbeth*
- Ryan McCaskey, [Acadia](#), *The Winter's Tale*
- Tom Van Lente, [Lucille](#), *Henry IV, Part 1*
- Paul Virant, [Perennial Virant](#), *Henry V*

The Grand Cru is a separately ticketed event at \$205 per person (excluding tax) and also requires a general admission ticket to Chicago Gourmet. Attendance is limited to 400 people each day. Tickets are available now at www.chicagogourmet.org.

Tickets for *Bon Appétit* presents Chicago Gourmet are still available. Weekend Passes and Saturday Passes are sold out, but One Day Passes are available for Sunday, September 25. Tickets for the newly added Saturday night event, The Tao of Tacos, are on sale now. Hamburger Hop and Late Night Gourmet ticket sales will be announced at a later date. For more information, visit www.chicagogourmet.org.

Produced by the [Illinois Restaurant Association](#), title sponsor [Bon Appétit magazine](#) and presenting sponsor [Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits](#), Chicago Gourmet 2016 is one of the nation's largest and most celebrated culinary events. With more than 200 restaurants and chefs, as well as hundreds of renowned vintners, spirit makers and premium breweries, this interactive, epicurean affair showcases many of the finest in the culinary world. It also includes a multitude of live cooking demonstrations, wine and cocktail seminars, gourmet tastings and book signings by internationally renowned chefs, Master Sommeliers, winemakers and more.

For more details, visit www.chicagogourmet.org. Specific questions regarding ticket sales may be directed to info@chicagogourmet.org or (312) 787-4000 ext. 140.

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ABOUT BON APPÉTIT

Bon Appétit is where food and culture meet. The award-winning No. 1 food lifestyle brand covers food through the lens of cooking, fashion, travel, design, and home. Under editor in chief Adam Rapoport, the brand has been nominated for 18 National Magazine Awards, including wins in 2014 for General Excellence and Photography; 12 James Beard Foundation Journalism Awards; and more than 50 Society of Publication Designers (SPD) nominations including design, photography, and Magazine of the Year. Under Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer Pamela Drucker Mann, the magazine was named the *Advertising Age* A-List Magazine of the Year in 2013 and "One to

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Watch” in 2014, and has been *Adweek’s* Food Magazine of the Year in 2012, 2013, and 2014. Please visit www.bonappetit.com.

ABOUT SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE & SPIRITS, INC.

Since its 1968 inception, Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits of America, Inc. (Southern), has been the nation’s leader in wine and spirits distribution with operations in 35 states and over 14,000 employees. In 2016, it was announced that Glazer’s, Inc. – the fourth largest distributor based in Dallas, Texas – would form a definitive agreement with Southern, creating the first truly North American wine and spirits distributor. The new company, Southern Glazer’s Wine and Spirits, LLC (Southern Glazer) will employ over 21,000 people and have a national distribution footprint in 44 states, the District of Columbia, Canada and the Caribbean. With its combined leadership team and proud family-owned legacy, Southern Glazer will represent over 90% of the legal-drinking age population and distribute more than 150 million cases annually. In doing so, they will maintain their historic commitment to delivering the highest standards of customer service and creative marketing programs and partnerships. Southern Glazer is also deeply rooted in social responsibility, establishing itself as a corporate citizen with generous contributions to national, state and local charitable entities. Locally, the company’s commitment to trade education will continue to expand through the use of the Southern Hospitality Center in Chicago, which serves thousands of active members of the restaurant, bar and retail trade with premier education and training programs – ultimately raising the quality of the consumer experience around the state. For more information visit www.southernwine.com.

ABOUT SHAKESPEARE 400 CHICAGO

Shakespeare 400 Chicago is a yearlong international arts festival in 2016 celebrating the vibrancy, relevance and reach of Shakespeare, spearheaded by [Chicago Shakespeare Theater](#). As the world commemorates the four hundred years since Shakespeare’s death in 1616, Shakespeare 400 Chicago will engage more than 500,000 Chicagoans and visitors to the City through 850 events. With leading support from the Julius Frankel Foundation, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and Pritzker Military Museum & Library, this quadricentennial celebration is anticipated to be the world’s largest and most comprehensive celebration of Shakespeare’s enduring legacy. For more information, visit www.shakespeare400chicago.com.

ABOUT CHICAGO GOURMET

Now in its ninth year, Chicago Gourmet, the nation’s premier culinary experience aimed at promoting Chicago’s world-class culinary community, takes place September 23-25, 2016. It was created by the [Illinois Restaurant Association](#) to celebrate and honor both Chicago’s culinary achievements and the creative vision of the chefs, Master Sommeliers, and wine-, spirit-, and beer-makers who participate. It also spotlights Chicago as an international culinary destination via its unparalleled epicurean talent. For more information, please visit www.chicagogourmet.org and follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

ABOUT ILLINOIS RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1914, the Illinois Restaurant Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, protecting, educating and improving the restaurant industry in Illinois. For more information, visit www.illinoisrestaurants.org and follow on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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