

# Three New York-Based Women Reach Master of Wine Rank

## Select Group Now Numbers 300

BY CARA McILWAIN

Eleven new Masters of Wine have been credentialed, following the results of the 2011 exam held in June. To earn the title Master of Wine, candidates must pass the theory and practical elements of the annual Master of Wine Examination and complete a 10,000-word dissertation based on original research. Three New York City-based women are among the 11 new Masters of Wine: Mary Gorman-McAdams, Christy Canterbury and Michele Anderson.

### Mary Gorman-McAdams



Gorman-McAdams, an Irish national living in New York since 2002, is a WSET Wine Educator at the International Wine Center, a wine columnist for the website *thekitchn.com*, a freelance wine writer and a wine judge. Her areas of specialization include Champagne and sparkling wine, Central and Eastern Europe, and the business and marketing of wine. Regarding her plans for the future, Mary says, "I have a lot of experience in wine education, which I plan to build on as well as expand my writing."

Before starting on this journey, Mary held various senior level marketing positions in Ireland and in France. "A big part of me wants to get back into

business and see how I can combine my newly earned MW title with my pre-wine background in marketing and international business and marketing," she says. A member of the Society of Wine Educators in the U.S. and an avid cook, Mary spends her weekends exploring New York's farmers' markets with her husband and son.

### Christy Canterbury

Christy Canterbury is a wine buyer, writer and educator who splits her time between Manhattan and the world's vineyards. Additionally, Christie holds the Diploma of Wine & Spirits from the Wine & Spirits Education Trust in London and is a sommelier certified through the Court of Master Sommeliers. Canterbury came to the wine business from finance, and her background helped in her role as the national wine director for Smith & Wollensky Restaurant Group and corporate beverage director for Culinary Concepts by Jean-Georges, helping to open restaurants around the world.

Canterbury also spent a year doing PR for New Zealand Winegrowers. She is a judge for the Ultimate Wine Challenge, an educator at Astor Center, a panelist for *Wine & Spirits* magazine, wine editor for the *Garrubbo Guide* and the Italian wine



editor for *Professional Wine Reference*. She also consults for importers and producers and writes for a flash-sales wine website. An avid traveler and fan of other beverages, she was a brand ambassador for Pilsner Urquell in the Czech Republic.

### Michele Anderson



Originally from Australia, Michele Anderson now makes her home in New York. She is currently Managing Director of Activate, a strategy consultant firm with a focus on media and the entertainment industry. Previously, Anderson was a principal at Booz Allen & Hamilton, and managing Director of the North American division of Australian Vintage. A champion windsurfer, Michele holds a silver medal in the sport from the 1988 World Student Games. Her MW dissertation topic was "How 'Green' are U.S. Wine Consumers in the Northeast region?"

There are now 300 Masters of Wine in the world, the highest number ever. Of those, 31 reside in America and nine are women. Eight of those live and work in New York: Mary Ewing-Mulligan, Sheri Sauter-Morano, Lisa Granik, Jennifer Simonetti-Bryan, Jean Reilly, Michele Anderson, Christy Canterbury and Mary Gorman-McAdams.