

THE GOURMAND AWARDS

Paris, July 1, 2009

LA COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE

Press Release, July 2, 2009

FINLAND WINS IN PARIS!

The Gourmand Awards took place in Paris this year, after London (2008) and Beijing (2007). The glamorous event was at La Comédie Française, the theatre of Molière, next to the Louvre. Over 700 guests from 45 countries attended, with one quarter from outside Europe.

Finland is a world power in the sector of food and wine books, thanks to excellent publishers and experienced writers.

The best cookbook of the year in Finland, according to the Finland jury experts, won Best Italian Cuisine Book in the World from the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards.

Winner Best Italian Cuisine Book in the World

Passione – Intohimona Italialainen Keittio **Passione – A Passion for Italian Cuisine**
Markku Koskinen
Christer Lindgren
(Otava)

The author is considered the leading expert in Italian cuisine in Finland.

The content is perfect, enhanced by the outstanding photography and brilliant world-class design publisher Otava leads in Finland for the number of awards received from the Gourmand Awards. The competition this year was difficult, with 14 countries competing in this category.

Winner Best in the World Single Subject Category

Mämmi
Ahmed Ladarsi
(Perhemediat)

One of the two most difficult categories is Single Subject category, with 41 countries competing this year. Finland wins with a most unusual book, the work of the passion of a surprising author, originally from Tunisia.

Mämmi is a very special dessert from Finland made from rye flour seasoned with dark molasses. Ahmed Ladarsi, the former chef at the Italian Embassy in Helsinki, founded the society for Mämmi and presents more than 100 ways to cook with it.

The book won to promote and encourage the research in the practical recovery of culinary treasures. Foods are now on the endangered lists in many countries, and it is only with work like this book that the recipes can be saved. It is the transmission of culinary knowledge which has broken down in many places, and books can help.

Third Place in the Best Health and Nutrition Book category

Diabeteksen hoito ruokavaliolla
The Anti-Diabetes Diet
Antti Heikkilä
(Rasalas)

Finland also wins Third Place in the Best Health and Nutrition Book category. Antti Heikkilä was an orthopedic surgeon. He no longer operates patients, but tries to treat pain without surgery or drugs.

31 countries were competing in this category.

Second Place for Best Book on French Wine

Ranskan viinit – Matka halki viinitarhojen
The French Wines – A Journey Through the Vineyards
Jukka Sinivirta
(Otava)

Finally, Finland is an important country for books on drinks, with excellent wine writers. With nine countries competing, it won Second Place for Best Book on French Wine.

Luxury guide book to the classics of the land of wines, and new findings. Jukka Sinivirta has worked for 30 years for French wines.