

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CONTACT:

Deborah Williams

(704) 231-4724

debbie@pcgincorporated.com

Kim Counts, APR

(704) 507-4158

kim@novellapr.com

Emily Halyburton Peterson

704.338.9463

cwfw@carolina.rr.com

**INFLUENCED BY A CONQUISTADOR
Eric Solomon Participates in the
2008 Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – *Food & Wine Magazine's* 2006 Best Importer, Eric Solomon, will lead the Connoisseur Tasting, the Reign in Spain, at the 2008 Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend, presented by University Volvo. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at 10:00 am at The Westin in Uptown.

“Mr. Solomon is an outstanding representation of Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend’s motto, *What’s your passion?*,” says Emily Halyburton Peterson, event coordinator of the Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend. “His enthusiasm, dedication and expertise epitomize what it means to be truly passionate about all aspects of the wine – from the cultivation and winemaking processes to education and enjoyment.”

Solomon is the founder of European Cellars, a leading importer of high-quality wines produced by small winemakers in classic and emerging wine regions throughout Europe. He will lead a tasting of wines from Spain with international vintner guests Jurgen Wagner of Celler Capcanes, Bodegas Valdesil’s Guillermo Prada, Valentin Llagostera from the Priorat’s superstar Mas Doix, and Adolfo Munoz, renown chef and owner of Viñedos Cigarral Santa María.

Wines at the Connoisseur Tasting will include highly rated, limited selections such as Mas Doix Salanques, Capcanes Calisa, Valdesil Pezas de Portela and Castano Casa Cisca. Tickets are still available online for \$250.00.

Tickets for the 2008 Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend are available online at www.charlottewineandfood.com. Proceeds benefit the five community partners of the 2008 Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend: Allegro Foundation, Charlotte Symphony, Hospitality House of Charlotte, Johnson & Wales University scholarship fund and KinderMourn.

- more -

Since its inception in 1990, the Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend has grown into one of the Southeast's largest wine events and has raised more than \$2.7 million for local charities. Held in the spring of every even-numbered year, the Weekend draws notable winemakers from around the world and pairs them with Charlotte's top chefs for three days of fun and educational events. The 2008 Charlotte Wine & Food Weekend, presented by University Volvo, will take place Wednesday, May 7, through Saturday, May 10. For more information, visit www.charlottewineandfood.com.

#