

GOURMAND
World Cookbook Awards

The Best in the World 2006

USA



Beijing, China
April 8, 2007

The **Gourmand Awards** have been taken place in Beijing on April 7, 2007. The **US** won **5 Special Awards** and **5 Best in the World Awards**.

Oprah's Chef Art Smith already won two Best in the World awards, in 2001 and 2004. In China he received with co-author **Michael Austin** a **Special Award** for his cookbook **Back to the Family, Food tastes better shared with the ones you love**. It is published by **Rutledge Hill Press**. Art Smith's books give a passionate statement, with a clear understanding of the needs of the cookbook readers, which makes him an outstanding author.

Oldways is a unique think tank that promotes food choices based on nutrition, tradition and sustainability. **Jeffrey Steingarten** says that « if I were asked to name the one group that has most influences the way we eat today, my answer would be Oldways ». The idea of Oldways came out of a visit by **Dun Gifford** in 1988 to China. It is appropriate that the first Oldways cookbook did receive a **Special Award** in Beijing. **The Oldways Table** is published by **Ten Speed Press**.

The **Taunton Press** received a **Special Award** in China. It is for **How to Break an Egg**, with 1453 kitchen tips, food fixes, emergency substitutions and handy techniques. The book is the result of the work of the editors, contributors and readers of **Fine Cooking** magazine. This reference book should be in all kitchens. It is most useful and practical.

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The other two **Special Awards** are both published for hurricane relief: The climate crisis even impacts cookbook publishing! First, for the **Grenada Relief Fund**, the book **Morgan Freeman and Friends: Caribbean Cooking for a Cause**, by **Wendy Wilkinson** and **Donna Lee**, second, from New Orleans, **The Ruby Slippers Cookbook: Life, Culture, Family and Food after Katrina**, by **Amy Cyrex Sims**, with **Paulette J. Beatty** and **Aaron L. Cyrex**. The first book is with big publisher **Rodale**, while the second one is self published by the author with the help of her family and friends.

Rodale wins a **Best in the World Award for Best Health and Nutrition Book** with **In great Taste**, by **Evelyn H. Lauder**, founder and Chairman of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, and Senior Corporate Vice-President of Estee Lauder companies. This excellent book is inspired by the passionate quest for help in the fight against breast cancer. It is methodical and scientific in its fundamentals, but appetizing, inspiring and even beautiful in the results.

For the seventh year in a row, the US wins in the **Best in the World Latino Cuisine** category, with **Baja! Cooking on the Edge**, by **Deborah M. Schneider**, with photography by **Maren Caruso**. The excellent design, colours, photography and text make the cookbook hot! This is a perfect example of content and format being adequate for each other. The author will convince the reader to go to Baja California.

Travel and food television are the motor of cookbook growth. **Ginkgo Press** is an international leader in good culinary travel guides and convinced us to start this new category three years ago. They win the **Best in the World Award** in this category with **Eat Smart in Peru, How to Decipher the Menu, know the Market Foods and Embark on a Tasting Adventure**. The book is written by **Joan Peterson** and **Brook Solvedt**, and beautifully illustrated by **Susan Chwae**.

A wine travel book, **Extremely Pale Rose**, wins the **Best in the World Award** about French wine. Published by **St. Martin's Press** it is the first book written by lawyer **Jamie Ivey**. It is a tribute to rose wines, which are now even more appreciated outside France than within. After the success of his book, the author lives with his wife near Aix en Provence, dealing in rose wines and writing his third book. His second book will be published in June 2007, also about rose wines and their feast in France.

Another US writer with a wonderful sense of humour wins the **Best in the World Award for Best Wine Literature Book in the World**. It is Jennifer Rosen with **The Cork Jester's Guide to Wine**, published by Clerish Press. Writing good wine literature is very demanding, there is much brilliant competition, and the result has to feel easy and simple. In fact it is a very difficult job. The Cork Jester's is a gem.

There is more information on www.cookbookfair.com, and in the **Gourmand Yearbook 2007** published for the **Beijing Gourmand Awards**.