



**2005 West Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve from Sonoma County Served at Nobel Prize Celebration
in Stockholm,
First Time for American Wine in 110 Years of Awards**

SONOMA COUNTY, CA, December 10, 2010 – The 2005 West Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve from the Dry Creek Valley region of Sonoma County was served tonight with the entrée at the Nobel Banquet for the Nobel Prize laureates, the Swedish royal family, and 1,300 guests. The festivities were held at the Blue Hall of the City Hall of Stockholm. This was the first time in Nobel Prize history, going back to 1901, that an American wine was selected for the dinner. A special panel of wine experts blind tasted wines from around the world for the honor of being part of this prestigious ceremony.

West Wines is owned and operated by Katarina Bonde and her husband, Bengt Akerlind. They both were born in Sweden and moved to Seattle in 1992 to work in the IT-industry. In 1998 they bought a 60 acre vineyard in the Dry Creek Valley region of Sonoma County as a getaway to relax and enjoy “wine country living” in northern California. Initially, they spent occasional weekends at their vineyard, located near the town of Healdsburg. Eventually they became more and more involved in farming the vineyard and spent more time there.

Since they both love wine, in 2002 they decided to create their own brand, West, with the assistance of consulting winemaker Julia Iantosca. The name came from the fact that their vineyard is located on the western slope of Dry Creek Valley, in the western part of Sonoma County, which is one of the westernmost wine producing areas in California, on the American west coast, in the western hemisphere of the world.

At first, Bonde and Akerlind produced only Cabernet Sauvignon. They expanded their product line in 2007 with the hiring of veteran winemaker Phyllis Zouzounis. West Wines now offers Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Viognier and Crest Cuvee, a Bordeaux-style blend.

Bonde and Akerlind have now moved to Sonoma County and live surrounded by their vineyard. They continue to work part-time in the IT sector.

“We are extremely proud that our West Cabernet Sauvignon was served at the Nobel Banquet,” says Bonde. “This is a huge honor for us and being from Sweden we know how this event captures worldwide attention ”

West wines are sold in Sweden at top rated restaurants and directly to consumers in America. The winery now produces 1,000 cases a year. For further information about the winery, visit www.westwines.com.

For further information on the 2010 Nobel Banquet, visit www.nobelprize.org.

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