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# WINNERS OF THE INAUGURAL SA CRAFT GIN AWARDS 2019

Words: Crush O August 22, 2019

The results of the inaugural SA Craft Gin Awards, presented by Checkers LiquorShop, were announced at the Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel last night, 21 August 2019, acknowledging and celebrating the finest craft gins that our country has to offer.

Twenty-six locally distilled craft gins received the highest accolade of Double Gold awards from an entry of 110 gins from over 50 distilleries all over South Africa.

The Double Gold award-winning gins at the SA Craft Gin Awards

- A Mari Atlantic Ocean and A Mari Indian Ocean gins
- Copper Republic African Dry and Copper Republic Rooibos & Grapefruit gins
- Die Dröe Rooinek Dry Gin
- Flowstone Bushwillow Gin
- Geometric Classic Cape Dry Gin
- Ginologist Spice Gin
- Harmony Aloe Ferox Gin
- Indlovu Gin Elephant Dung Gin
- Jin Gin Olive & Honey and Jin Gin Tomato & Sweet Piquante Pepper gins

- Knut Hansen Dry Gin a South African version of the German original
- Lieben Sailor Lemon & Lime Gin
- Magalies Lavender Gin
- Monks Medella Blueberry Infused and Monks Mary Jane Hemp Infused gins
- Nuy Legacy and Nuy Mastery gins
- Old N1 African Dry and Old N1 Fijnbos Fields gins
- Old Packhouse Moringa Gin
- Pienaar & Son Empire and Pienaar & Son Orient gins
- Smiths Elderflower Dry and Smiths Spiced Dry gins
- Wild Rose Fynbos Gin





The Single Gold award-winning gins at the SA Craft Gin Awards

- Benguela Diamonds Gin
- Blind Tiger Gin
- Cape Fynbos Gin
- Caspyn West Coast Dry Gin
- Clifton Pure and Rare Cape Gin
- Clifton Rare Cape Lavender

- Darlington Gin
- Deep South Distillery Cape Dry Gin
- Die Mas Kalahari Dry Gin
- Distillery 031 D'Urban Dry Gin
- Durban Barrel aged Gin
- Finery Grapefruit Gin
- Flowstone Wild Cucumber
- Ginologist Citrus Gin
- Ginsala Spice Gin
- Ginsmith Navy Gin
- Harmony Honeybush Gin
- Jorgensen's Fynbos Hibiscus Gin
- L-Gin Crush Gin
- L-Gin Plush Gin
- Lieben Tinker Gin
- Magalies Classic Gin
- Mirari Celebration Goldflake Gin
- Monks Mysterium Fynbos Gin
- Musgrave Gin
- Muti Gin
- Old Packhouse Crystal Gin
- Old Packhouse Mandarin Gin
- Phantom Gin
- Smiths Citrus Dry

- Still 33 Flivver Rooibos Gin
- Sugarbird Cape Fynbos Gin
- The Tempest Gin
- Unit 43 Gin The Prospector
- Westcliff Gin
- Wilderer Double Delight Gin
- Wilderer Fynbos

Muti Gin also won the award for Best Bottle Design.





#### THE JUDGES

The gins were blind-tasted by an expert panel of judges with in-depth knowledge of the drinks industry:

Roger Jorgensen - the father of South African gin
Dr. Anna Trapido - wine and spirits judge and food anthropologist
Thierry Lubala - mixologist at South Africa's largest gin bar at Asara Estate

Jean Buckham – owner of The Gin Box, a craft gin club showcasing different SA craft gins Hanneli van der Merwe – oenologist and co-owner of Barker & Quin Mixers Tammy Frazer – perfumer and owner of Frazer Parfum

The competition is the largest gin competition in the country and the only dedicated competition for **craft gin distillers in South Africa**.

Commenting on the awards, Roger Jorgensen said: "South African gin distillers are superb when they ace it as they develop their own style and techniques. Given the plethora of wonderful botanicals here it is no wonder that the Cape is the new Gin Capital of the world."

On the future of the gin industry in South Africa he added: "The future is bright and SA can be a global player, it has only just begun. Gin has been around for a long time and due to its versatile nature will not disappear overnight."

"Checkers LiquorShop is proud to partner with the inaugural SA Craft Gin Awards to highlight and celebrate South Africa's diverse range of world-class gins," said Jean Marais, Business Manager for Checkers LiquorShop.

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