

Issue 89







## **HOW TO USE OUTTURN**

*out-turn* n. 1 The number of Society bottles produced from a single cask. Varies from cask to cask. A finite number that will, sooner or later, run out. 2 The name given to Society bottling lists, containing Tasting Notes for each recently released Society bottling of which only a limited number are ever available (see above).

Each Society bottling is unique. And each can be identified by its markings. The tasting notes give you an insight into the characteristics of each whisky, and are the best place to start.

You may find yourself drawn to a "Cowboy's delight" or have a preference for "Big and tingly." Maybe your instincts lead you to a dram that's "Like a hug from your Mom" or perhaps to "BBQ smoke by a rolling sea."

These curious descriptors are your best clue to what you'll find within each bottle, and are at the heart of The Society's raison d'être.

With The Society's monthly selection of single cask malts it's not surprising that some members find it hard to focus on their perfect bottlings. Thankfully it's not cheating to ask for help. Just call Kensington Wine Market in Calgary at 403-283-8000 (email: scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com) or Keg n Cork in Edmonton at 780-461-0191 (email: dave@kegncork.com) or email us at curious@smws.ca for advice of an expert nature.

#### **SPICY & DRY**

MUSK PERFUME AND RUM PUNCH

CASK NO. 72.61

\$151.99



Tropical murmurs suggested an aromatic undercurrent of ripe melon, coconut body oil and rum punch laced with liquorice. The curiously seductive waft of musk perfume unveiled floral tones as talcum powder merged with the lychee-laden fruit of gewürztraminer wine. Shortcrust pastry expanded the oily richness before turning towards herbal realms and strong black tea.

The palate carried the lively zing of gooseberry tart but blended seamlessly with red berries, cinnamon, nutmeg and star anise. A butter pastry element led us to cherry pie before turning to juniper berries and a finish of fresh green twigs.

### **JUICY, OAK & VANILLA**

FUNKY FLOWERS AND TROPICAL FRUITS

CASK NO. 51.8 \$167.99

REGION	Northern Ireland
CASK TYPE	1st Fill Barrel
AGE	16 Years
DATE	16 October 2001
OUTTURN	205 Bottles
ABV	54.5%

This is no wallflower! The generous nose begins with polished old mahogany tables, orange oil, pot pourri, rum n raisin chocolate, liquorice, cherry cough drops and rich gravy made with cranberry jelly. The taste is pleasingly unusual and 'funky' - intensely sweet and floral (roses) with an abundance of red fruits and some herbs.

Funky flowers and tropical fruits

The floral and fruity theme continues when you add water – it's fresh and vibrant with hothouse flowers (geranium), tropical fruits (melon and mango), fruity boiled sweets, herbs and wine. The sweet taste provides juicy overripe tropical fruits, vanilla syrup and herbs. Unusual but rewarding.

#### **SWEET, FRUITY & MELLOW**

TRIPLE DISTILLED BLOODY MARY

**CASK NO. 5.63** 

\$204.99



The Panel found this one surprisingly mature for the age. The nose revealed notes of cloudy lemonade, blood orange, celery salt, sultanas, wet earth, shoe polish, chamois leather and peach stone. Some dark chocolate, date puree and fig rolls all slosh about in the depths. With water it gave up quince paste, orange oils, lemon rind, aged moscatel, marjoram and a clove studded orange in mulling wine.

The palate was full of orange bitters, prune juice, maraschino cherry with preserved lemon and a big slug of strong Manhattan cocktail. Some apple crumble and vanilla follow on. Reduction reveals more orange notes, some dried herbs and assorted spices with salted caramel going soft in the pocket of a wax jacket. Matured for 15 years in an ex-bourbon hogshead before being transferred to an Oloroso sherry hogshead for the remainder of its maturation.

#### **SWEET & SPICY**

## COMPLEX AND LIVELY

**CASK NO. 50.62** 

\$235.99



REGION	Lowland
CASK TYPE	Refill Barrel
AGE	24 Years
DATE	15 May 1990
OUTTURN	121 Bottles
ABV	59.1%

This complex, lively dram did not appeal to everyone's taste. The nose had delightful sweetness (spun sugar, toffee apples, marzipan, Daim bars) and fruitiness in the form of stewed plums and cherry brandy; but we also detected butterfly wing-beats of rubber, dried flowers and linseed oil.

Water brought out sultana loaf, rum and raisin truffles and Soreen malt loaf. The palate offered Moffat toffees in a tin and candy necklaces, plus deeper notes of leather, rubber, caramelized onions and black pepper. Water softened the palate to Coco Pops and cappuccino with hints of Christmas spice – much more drinkable in reduction.

#### **DEEP, RICH & DRIED FRUITS**

## SLIPPER SIPPER

CASK NO. 30.101

\$152.99



REGION	Speyside
CASK TYPE	1st Fill Sherry Butt
AGE	10 Years
DATE	6 June 2007
OUTTURN	645 Bottles
ABV	64.3%

The sherry's voice was loud and clear to the panel in this one. Immediate notes of furniture wax, shoe polish, wet earth, strawberry jam and tinned pineapple emerged alongside some touches of plum sauce and date compote. Water gave us brown bread, toasted pumpkin seeds, olive oil, muesli, crushed oatcakes and orange juice. A high octane Old Fashioned.

The palate was immediately spicy with tamarind, spiced chutney, mango puree, lean tannins, bitter chocolate, demerara sugar and black tea. With some evolution towards dried orange rind and pipe tobacco. With water we found notes such as maraschino liqueur, bacon fries, salted beef and a pin prick of wasabi! There were also drops of Drambuie and marmalade on rye bread.

### **OILY & COASTAL**

SALTED MALTED CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES

CASK NO. 42.35 \$147.99

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Highland Island
Refill Barrel
9 Years
25 June 2008
205 Bottles
62%

Initially like a 'fresh-from-the-sea' shellfish platter with sweet shrimps, briny clams, white crab meat and succulent scallops. With time, sweet chocolate candies in the form of marine shellfish, coconut balls and cherry kernel oil made this a really complex nose worth discovering.

The taste neat surprised us with plenty of heat, wasabi and sweet pepper & onion relish as we reached for the water. Maritime aromas of an old sea chest, sea salted popcorn and sugar kelp appeared whilst on the palate now it was more approachable. A salty dog cocktail served with a bowl of Bombay mix snacks and salted malted chocolate cupcakes.

### **LIGHTLY PEATED**

WEIRD BUT WONDERFUL

**CASK NO. 66.119** 

\$157.99



REGION	Highland
CASK TYPE	Refill Hogshead
AGE	11 Years
DATE	6 March 2006
OUTTURN	251 Bottles
ABV	55.4%

We imagined sitting under an umbrella (in the sun!) by the sea, and having a picnic with smoky griddled sardines and sweet tomato chutney followed by pig's cheek with kale and celeriac mash.

When we tasted neat someone was reminded of dill pickle soup with smoked ham – sounds weird? Perhaps, but if you do like pickles why not give it a go, a truly hearty, savoury, creamy and very comforting dish. When we added a few drops of water descriptors of food continued as we were served a squid, mint and coriander salad with roasted rice.



# **SHARE THE LOVE!**

There's nothing like sharing a good whisky with a good friend, so with this in mind we have our Recommend-a-Friend program.

For every new member who signs up on your recommendation or for every gift membership you buy for that like-minded friend (up to a maximum of six referrals/gift memberships per membership year), you'll receive \$20.00 off the cost of your \$125.00 renewal fee. Discoveries taste better when shared!

Visit www.smws.ca for more information.





## **WHERE TO BUY**

The exclusive retail stores of The Society in Canada:

#### KENSINGTON WINE MARKET

1257 Kensington Road NW, Calgary, AB
Phone: 403-283-8000 (1-888-283-9004)
Email: scotchguy@kensingtonwinemarket.com
www.kensingtonwinemarket.com

#### **KEG N CORK LIQUOR COMPANY**

3845 - 99th Street, Edmonton, AB
Phone: 780-461-0191
Email: dave@kegncork.com
www.kegncork.com

#### THE STRATH ALE, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS

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Phone: 250-370-9463
Email: whisky@strathliquor.com
www.strathconahotel.com

#### **LEGACY LIQUOR STORE**

1633 Manitoba Street, Vancouver, BC
Phone: 604-331-7900
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