



**MEDIA ADVISORY
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RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR RAS EPICUREAN STAR AWARD 2017

20 awards will be presented at the RAS Epicurean Star Award Gala Dinner 2017

Singapore, November 2017 – Returning for its 12th edition, the **RAS Epicurean Star Award 2017** is set to honour the *crème de la crème* of the F&B industry that have consistently provided top-notch food and service. The awards ceremony will be held on 14 November 2017, at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Organised by the Restaurant Association of Singapore (RAS), the finalists will vie for awards from 18 categories such as *Best Western Restaurant (Casual / Fine Dining)*, *Best Buffet* and *Best Gastro-Pub*, as well as two new categories, *Best Seafood Restaurant* and *Best Mediterranean Restaurant*.

Two outstanding restaurants will also be conferred the prestigious *Best of the Best* (Casual and Fine Dining) accolade, an award that is not open for nominations. The ceremony is not merely a hallmark achievement for finalists and winners, but an encouragement from RAS in a continuing effort to better the quality of the local F&B scene.

Mr Vincent Tan, President of RAS elaborates: “RAS is committed to improving the F&B industry by honouring the best establishments that continue to enliven our ever-evolving dining scene. By raising the profile of our industry, not only we can attract more talents, we also hope that more restaurateurs will be inspired to be at the forefront of the industry with great concepts, excellent food and top-notch service.”

The gala dinner and awards ceremony will be graced by **Guest of Honour Mr S Iswaran, Minister for Trade & Industry (Industry)**.

NEW CATEGORIES AND FIRST-TIMERS

Pioneer categories for 2017 include *Best Mediterranean Restaurant* and *Best Seafood Restaurant*. First-time finalists for both categories include *Aryaa*, *Beirut Grill*, and *NUDE Seafood*. There are a total of 37 new comers for this year's edition.

The category for *Best New F&B Establishment* has expanded to two separate groups for *Casual Fine Dining* and *Casual Dining* as well. Notable first-time participants for these categories include *Sessions*, *Maison Ikkoku The Gallery* and the newly opened *Po*.

Selected winners of the awards will offer dining promotions to celebrate their milestones. Details of these promotions will be released after the winners have been announced.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

A panel of 20 industry stalwarts will be assessing the selected establishments over a one-month mystery dining period in October 2017 based on the following criteria – quality and taste, presentation, service, product knowledge and cleanliness. Some renowned personalities include food critic Wong Ah Yoke, food blogger Maureen Ow (Miss Tamchiak), Executive Chef Eric Neo of InterContinental Hotel Group and celebrity chef Eric Teo.

The official auditor for RAS Epicurean Star Award 2017 is RSM.

RAS Epicurean Star Award 2017 website www.rasepicurean.com

*For a full list of finalists, refer to Annexe A

About Restaurant Association of Singapore

As the pioneer and largest F&B Association in Singapore, Restaurant Association of Singapore (RAS) has more than 350 members, representing about 600 brands that operate close to 3,000 outlets. Our members comprise a good mix of business models such as restaurants, caterers, fast foods and food courts, with various cuisine types, thus providing a wholesome view and opinion, with the common goal to propel the industry forward.

Since 1980, RAS has acted as a collective voice for the F&B industry and strives to advance the industry through various platforms such as bridging closer working relationships between businesses and government agencies, networking events for members, recognition and awards platforms and administering programmes to drive business success. For more information, please visit www.ras.org.sg.

For more information or interviews, please contact:

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Annexe A

* First-time finalists for RAS Epicurean Star Award 2017

BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT (FINE)	BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT (CASUAL)	BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT (CHAIN)
Crystal Jade Golden Palace	Ling Zhi	Crystal Jade Kitchen
Crystal Jade Palace	Wah Lok Cantonese Restaurant	Crystal Jade La Mian Xiao Long Bao
Feng Shui Inn	Tian Court Restaurant*	PuTien
Forest by Sam Leong	TungLok Seafood	Peach Garden Chinese Restaurant
Mitzo*	Xin Cuisine Chinese Restaurant	TungLok Signatures
Tong Le Private Dining		
BEST WESTERN RESTAURANT (FINE)	BEST WESTERN RESTAURANT (CASUAL)	BEST GASTRO-PUB
Buona Terra	Chef's Table by Chef Stephan	Brewerkz
Curate*	Ocean Restaurant by Cat Cora*	Equilibrium*
Joel Robuchon Restaurant	Osia Steak and Seafood Grill	Maison Ikkoku The Art of Mixology*
L'Atelier de Joel Robuchon	Grissini*	Timbre
Stellar at 1-Altitude	Vineyard at HortPark	YOUNGS Bar & Restaurant*
BEST ASIAN RESTAURANT (FINE)	BEST ASIAN RESTAURANT (CASUAL)	BEST ASIAN RESTAURANT (CHAIN)
Candlenut*	Big Street	Bangkok Jam
Punjab Grill	Chatterbox*	Chicken Up*
Restaurant Labyrinth	Elemen*	Penang Culture*
Tamarind Hill	Lokkee*	Pho Street*
Tangerine by Ian Kittichai	Zaffron Kitchen	
BEST JAPANESE RESTAURANT (FINE)	BEST JAPANESE RESTAURANT (CASUAL)	BEST CAFÉ
Fat Cow	Ichiban Boshi	Arteastiq Boutique Teahouse
FORT by Maison Ikkoku	SUN with MOON Japanese Dining & Café*	Bee's Knees*
Kinki Restaurant & Bar	Tampopo	Hoshino Coffee*
Ki-Sho	Tajimaya Yakiniku	Oriole Coffee + Bar
Syun by Hal Yamashita	The Flying Squirrel	Mon Bijou*
		Wildseed Café*
BEST NEW F&B ESTABLISHMENT (CASUAL FINE DINING) -NEW	BEST NEW F&B ESTABLISHMENT (CASUAL DINING) -NEW	BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT-NEW
Botanico at the Garage*	Big Fish Small Fish*	Dancing Crab
Monti at 1-Pavilion*	Maison Ikkoku The Gallery*	NUDE Seafood*
Po*	KURO Izakaya*	Greenwood Fish Market
Sessions*	OMOOMO Food Concepts*	Pince & Pints Restaurant and Bar
The Dempsey Cookhouse and Bar*	O-KU Japanese Tapas Bar*	The Pelican Seafood Bar & Grill
BEST BUFFET	BEST BUFFET CATERER	BEST MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT - NEW
Carousel Restaurant	Belly Good	Aryaa*
Ellenborough Market Cafe	Creative Eateries Catering*	Beirut Grill*
J65*	Kampong Café @ BM Catering	Kazbar
Lime Restaurant	Orange Lantern Catering*	Shabestan
RISE Restaurant*	Shiok Kitchen Catering	
Triple Three*		