

Emirates LEISURE RETAIL

Media Release

August 21, 2008

Master Mixologists Sweep the Board - Middle East Mixology Competitions

Master mixologists from UAE's leading bar, restaurant and café operator, Emirates Leisure Retail have swept the leader board this week at the prestigious Havana Club and Finlandia Vodka Middle East Mixology Competitions, sponsored by MMI.

Master Mixologist and Executive Bar Development Manager, ELR Licensed Division, Francesco Leoni, took out the industry exclusive Havana Club Bar Managers Competition, with second place going to Angus McGregor, Bar Manager at Shoreline Jumeirah's Beach House Cabana and soon to open Barca.Club.

Francesco, who has been instrumental in creating the veritable cocktail lists at Dubai's premier bars Left Bank and Après, says he is delighted with the result and congratulated his team who were awarded the top rankings in the general competitions sponsored in the UAE by MMI.

"The results are testament to the passion of our team, the competition requires great skill and it is more than just creating a great drink, the judging panel look for in depth product knowledge, originality, finesse in presentation and all drinks must be prepared within a strict time frame," he said.

Instead of heading out to celebrate their wins this weekend the talented team will be back behind the bars at Left Bank, Après and Beach House Cabana mixing the ultimate drinks from the best cocktail lists in Dubai.

Finlandia Vodka Middle East Cocktail Mixology Competition

Winner – Leidi Ann Hipolito, Left Bank Madinat Jumeirah

Runner Up – Rohan Shetty, Après

Havana Rum Middle East Cocktail Mixology Competition

Winner – Afzal Kaba, Left Bank Souk Al Bahar

3rd Leidi Ann Hipolito, Left Bank Madinat Jumeriah

4th Ryan Menezes, Après

Havana Rum Middle East Cocktail Mixology Competition – Bar Managers

Winner – Francesco Leoni, Executive Bar Development Manager, ELR Licensed Division

2nd Angus McGregor, Bar Manager, Shoreline Jumeirah's Beach House Cabana/Barca.Club

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Experience UAE's Top Mixologists at:

Left Bank Waterfront Promenade

Souk Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai

T 04 368 6171

Left Bank Waterfront

1st Floor, Souk Al Bahar, Downtown Burj Dubai

T 04 368 4501

Après

1st Floor, West End, Mall of the Emirates, Dubai

T 04 341 2575

Beach House Cabana

Clubhouse Azraq

Shoreline Apartments, Palm Jumeirah, Dubai

T 04 361 8856