

LIFETIME AWARD FOR GLENELLY'S GRAND DAME

May de Lencquesaing, "Grande Dame" of Glenelly Wine Estate in Stellenbosch (pictured right), has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's International Wine Challenge (IWC) awards, in recognition of her 40 years of work in the industry.

The ceremony took place on 6th July at the Hilton Park Lane in London in front of a sell-out audience of winemakers, restauranters, trade and press from across the globe who gave Lencquesaing a standing ovation.

Lencquesaing is a member of one of Bordeaux's oldest wine families, the Mialhe, whose place in the wine industry dates back to the end of the 18th century. Owners of several great Bordeaux châteaux, she spent many years travelling the globe with her late husband General Hervé de Lencquesaing, taking the helm of the family business in 1978. She sold the Château to Champagne Louis Roederer in 2007 to concentrate on her new wine estate in South Africa, which she had invested in back in 2003, having recognized the potential to grow world-class wines with the right microclimate.

Aged 78, she bought Glenelly Estate on the lower slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain, replanting the former fruit farm to

pristine vineyards, building a state-of-the-art winery, a tasting centre, a museum for her precious glass collection and a school for the children on the farm along the way.

Today, 14 years later, alongside her two grandsons Nicolas Bureau and Arthur de Lencquesaing, they are reshaping Glenelly into one of South Africa's pre-eminent estates.

