



Karina Tamm named World Bartender of the Year

On behalf of the Board of the International Bartender Association, it is our pleasure to inform you about the official results from the World Cocktail Championships 2018 (WCC2018) which were held in Tallinn, Estonia on the 3rd and 4th of October 2108.

The prestigious title of the World Bartender of the Year for 2018 was awarded to Karina Tamm from Estonia. The title comes with a great deal of recognition in the field, with the careers of quite a few winners over the years having taken off thanks to their world championship victory.

The WCC is the only worldwide independent cocktail competition with 60 countries participating in 6 different competitions: Before Dinner Cocktail Competition; After Dinner Cocktail Competition; Long Drink Cocktail Competition; Sparkling Cocktail Competition; Bartenders Choice Competition; Flair Cocktail Competition.

The winner of each category is pronounced World Champion and is invited to the Super final in which the winner is pronounced to be Bartender of the Year and his/hers cocktail is the official IBA Cocktail of the Year. The World Cocktail Championships 2018 in Estonia offered tense competition and exciting performances. Visitors from a total of 67 countries attended the event, with competitors from 56 nations putting their cocktail-making skills to the test. The Bartenders Association of each country sent their best cocktail-makers into the medal fray in Estonia, with the best of the best coming away with medals at the end of the long day of competition. A lot of new and interesting ideas were presented in the competition, with plenty of inspiration being given to the audience which consisted of professionals from the industry worldwide.



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World Champions in their cocktail categories were:

Grétar Matthiasson

"Short Drink" (Iceland)

Ariel Sanecki

"Sparkling Cocktail" (Ireland)

Karina Tamm

"Bartender's Choice" (Estonia)

Agnieszka Cieslar

"Long Drink" (Poland)

Yandery Crispin

"After Dinner Cocktail" (Dominican Republic)

Danilo Oribe

"Flair" (Uruguay)

For pictures click HERE

For people involved in the field of drink culture, the gala dinner at the Seaplane Harbour formed the apogee of the World Cocktail Championships. It was the opportunity for all the National delegations to honour the best in the bartending industry and for the International Bartenders Association to introduce the Alex Beaumont Trophy to the best Flair tender in memory of the IBA's Flair founder.

Special prize winners:

Alex Beaumont Trophy

MR. DANILO ORIBE- Uruguay

Team Prize (Challenge Cup)

URUGUAY

Art Deco

MR. TONI CORTES RECATALA- Spain

Best Flair Cocktail Prize

MR. CHRISTOPHE DAUDIGNY- Denmark

D.N.A. Cup

MR. DUSAN JANJATOVIC- Croatia- Golden Tallinn

Eagle Award

MISS KARINA TAMM- Estonia

Prestige Award

MR. YOUNG WANG- China

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The International Bartenders Association is a non-profit organization which consists of 60 dedicated National bartender associations from the whole world. Established in 1951 with 6 National Guilds, the IBA has continuously expanded due to the passion from the global bartending community. Today, IBA is proud to be the only worldwide authority in the professional bartending industry. The IBA's most valuable assets are our tens of thousands of members, bartenders all over the world. Equally important are our long-term relationships with key industry players and leaders in the international beverage and hospitality industry. Further information and exciting material about IBA you can find on our Facebook page @internationalbartenders or website www.iba-world.com

If you need any further details, photographs or video, please do not hesitate to contact me on iba.vp.europe@gmail.com

See you at the next World Cocktail Championship 2019 in Chengdu, China!

Djordje Matic

Vice President Europe