

# GOURMAND

World Media Awards

## 2005



PRESS RELEASE  
May 20, 2006

## Argentina at the Gourmand Awards

On May 20, 2006 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Argentina wins for this first time with a “**Best in the World Cookbook of Italian cuisine**”. The winner is “**Fatto in Casa – Auténticos Platos Italianos**”, by **Donato de Santis** (Bonum). Donato is a big star in Argentina, thanks to his talent and personality, which shines on television food shows. There is a very large Italian community in Argentina, which has greatly influenced Argentinean culture in many ways, especially cooking.

There is very strong interest for Italian food outside Italy, it is the second favourite food in many countries around the world after the national food, for instance in the United States, or Australia, which have big Italian populations. The number of Italian quality restaurants is now increasing outside Italy. Italian food is also more present in food television shows. Italian cookbooks or Italian food television seen outside Italy are nearly always made outside Italy, and they are not translations, with most of the production coming from the United States.

The previous Best in the World winners in the category of Italian cuisine cookbooks are:

2000	Germany – M.Zardo, H.Z. Wecken (Hugen Duboi)
2001	Switzerland – Armin Rottolo (At Verlag)
2002	US – Mario Batali (Clarkson Potter)
2003	UK – Gennaro Contaldo (Headline)
2004	Austria – Emanuela Stramana (Seehamer)

Winner Mario Batali became very famous and much loved thanks to his television program. He has a superb restaurant in New York. Winner Gennaro Contaldo, who is respected by Jamie Oliver as his master has a restaurant in London.

In the past, Argentina has won 2 “Best in the World Awards” for wine books. First, in 1998 with a “Guide to Argentinian Wines” by Elizabeth Checa and Miguel Brasco. Then in 2002 with a wine history book by Fernando Vidal Buzzi.

Complete information on the Gourmand Awards will be published after May 20 in  
The Gourmand Yearbook 2006.

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