

THE WASHINGTON PANEL

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Grenache Ground Breakers

*Winemakers Joel Gott
& Dave Phinney
Explore New Frontiers*

Spring into Summer

story and photos by Lana Bortolot



Above: A casual vibe prevails at Terroir on the Porch. Below: A webinar at the New Wines of Greece tasting.



The season of sipping light was in full swing as the Summer of Riesling kicked off June 21. NYC can lay claim to the birth of this now-national acidhound movement thanks to **Paul Greico**, who made Riesling all day, every day his mission at his Hearth and Terroir restaurants. Now, the impressively bearded sommelier is celebrating his sixth year as Riesling Overlord by opening **Terroir on the Porch** on the elevated High Line park.

Shipping container turned wine bar, the seasonal pop-up opened in late May boasting west-facing views over the Hudson River and a scaled down, but still respectable wine list of off-the-beaten-path wines. Perfect for a bar that is, well, off the beaten path.

New Wines of Greece held its annual trade tasting at Espace, with some 50 producers in solidarity against any reservations of the country's wine economy. "The little region that could" drew more than 200 members of the wine trade to its NYC event, one of four in its North American road tour. The event hosted its first-ever webinar moderated by Doug Frost MW, MS, Steve Olson and Greek winemakers.

The water and the **Jameson Irish Whiskey** flowed at an interactive art exhibition dedicated to the future of water. In typical downtown fusion fashion, it was art + life + science at the opening of "Surface Tension: The Future of Water" at Chelsea's Eyebeam Art & Technology Center. With a green theme, it was only fitting that Jameson bottles dominated the warehouse-chic bar as sponsor of the interactive eco-exhibition. Museum curators, patrons of the arts, stewards of the earth and not-so-mad scientists sipped, savored and snapped photos.

Making the rounds in New York are hometown World Wine Guys **Mike DeSimone** and **Jeff Jensen**, who just published their *Fire Island Cookbook*, a Memorial to Labor Day bible of food, wine and spirit pairings. Inspired by their culinary travels, the dining duo set out to create the complete and consummate Hamptons summer entertaining guide, with road-less-travelled wines (Greece, Croatia, South Africa) that reflect the personal tastes and experiences of the authors. Just in time for Fourth of July imbibing: their list of six California All-American beauties. ■■



Jameson celebrates water in downtown Manhattan.



Mike DeSimone and Jeff Jensen.