



News Release  
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## From Toronto to Chile by Way of MONTREAL HIGH LIGHTS!

# The Enticing Aromas of the Gourmet Series' 9th Edition!

Tickets on sale now

Montréal, Tuesday, December 11, 2007—After revelling in the culinary delights of New York City, the **MONTREAL HIGH LIGHTS Festival's Air France Wine and Dine Experience presented by American Express** stars **Toronto** as the featured city of its **9th edition**, to take place **Thursday, February 21 through Sunday, March 2, 2008**, along with **Chile** as its **featured country**. It's no coincidence that this epicurean celebration *par excellence* has become North America's most important gourmet event: this edition alone features over **50 chefs and winemakers** from the Old and New World, **47 Finest Tables** (restaurants that masterfully pair food and wine), not to mention a number of **special events** dedicated to mouth-watering cuisine that await gourmands and gourmets the world over. All that in addition to the celebrated **pairings between guest chefs** with their Montreal counterparts, a concept exclusive to the Festival!

### Quebec City's 400th Anniversary

In honour of *la capitale nationale's* anniversary, the Festival kicks off with an opening dinner on Friday, February 22. The **Coup de chapeau au 400<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de Québec**, presented by **Québec City Tourism** and prepared by five of the city's most acclaimed chefs—**François Blais** (Panache/Auberge Saint-Antoine), **Yves Chrétien** (Le Champlain/Fairmont Le Château Frontenac), **Yvan Lebrun** (Initiale), **Stéphane Modat** (L'Utopie) and **Daniel Vézina** (laurie raphaël)—promises to be a real orgy for the senses!

### Susur Lee, Honorary President

For the 9th edition of the Air France Wine and Dine Experience presented by American Express, we are honoured to welcome **Honorary President Susur Lee**, considered today to be Toronto's most internationally acclaimed chef. The Hong Kong-born chef opened Toronto restaurant Susur in 2000, followed by Lee in 2004, a relaxed spot that has earned him a loyal following. His bold cuisine, a blend of European and Asian influences, garnered him instant success. What's more, by his own admission, Lee loves Montreal and its restaurants! Chef Lee's seven-course **Honorary President's Dinner** on Saturday, February 23 is sure to take us off the beaten path.

## Toronto, Featured City

This year, get a taste of **Toronto** as Montreal chefs host **15 of their elite counterparts**, the pride of the Queen City. Aside from Susur Lee, Toronto chefs gracing the event include **Bertrand Alépée** and **Jason Inniss** (Amuse-Bouche), **Marc Thuet** (Bistrot & Bakery Thuet), **Anthony Walsh** (Canoe), **Lorenzo Loseto** (George Restaurant), **Jamie Kennedy** (Jamie Kennedy Restaurant), **Jason Carter** (Lee), **Christopher Brown** (Perigee), **Keith Froggett** (Scaramouche), **Jean-Pierre Challet** (The Fifth Grill), **Carlos Hernandez** (Torito), **Anne Yarymowich** (AGORA—Art Gallery of Ontario), **David Chrystian** (Chez Victor—Hôtel Le Germain Toronto) and **Gabriele Paganelli** (Romagna Mia).

## Chile, Featured Country

A major fruit, vegetable and wine producer, **Chile** exports its products to destinations all over the globe. The country's wine industry is in full expansion, producing some of the world's finest vintages and gastronomy holds a prominent place in the capital city of Santiago, where many establishments boast top-notch cuisine. Come and experience this country's vibrancy firsthand through the masterpieces of our six guest chefs and 12 guest producers.

### All the details on the MONTREAL HIGH LIGHTS Festival

For complete programming information for the **Air France Wine and Dine Experience presented by American Express** and the **Sun Life Financial Performing Arts** please visit the Festival website at [montrealhighlights.com](http://montrealhighlights.com) or call the **HIGH LIGHTS Info Line** at 514 288-9955 or toll-free 1 888 477-9955. Programming information for the **5th Montreal All-Nighter** will be available on January 21. Programs for the **Hydro-Québec Celebration of Light** and the **Montreal Downtown & Underground Event** presented by **Hydro-Québec** in cooperation with **Milk** will be revealed February 5. The 9th edition of the MONTREAL HIGH LIGHTS will run from **Thursday, February 21 to Sunday, March 2, 2008**.

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#### **Sources:**

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**Download photos and press kits:** <ftp://ftp.festivalmontrealenlumiere.com>

username: [fmlcommclient](#) password: [fmlcomm2008](#)

#### **Public information:**

High Lights Info Line—514 288-9955, toll free 1 888 477-9955; [montrealhighlights.com](http://montrealhighlights.com)