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**Unveiling Greatness**

*Sabayon at EQ hosts historic uncorking of Opus One's Overture 2021*

**Kuala Lumpur, 23 May 2025** — EQ, Kuala Lumpur and its iconic fine dining venue, Sabayon, hosted an extraordinary evening of world-class oenology, haute cuisine, and cultural diplomacy in a celebration of excellence on 23 May 2025. The event, held in collaboration with Bordeaux Liquid Gold, was a milestone in the dream of Baron Philippe de Rothschild and Robert Mondavi who set out to create a single wine dedicated to the pursuit of uncompromising quality. The Opus One winery in Napa Valley, California has produced some of California's most lauded wines since the 1990s.

Sabayon was a fitting venue to the soaring aspirations of the de Rothschild and Mondavi dream, situated as it is on the 51<sup>st</sup> level, with a panoramic view of the glittering Kuala Lumpur skyline and eye-level vistas of some of the most prominent landmarks of the country.

The Opus One wine dinner saw a glittering assemblage of personalities which included H.E. Edgard D. Kagan, the United States of America's Ambassador to Malaysia, as well as H.E. Axel Cruau, the French Ambassador, whose presence underscored the event's international significance and the unifying power of wine. Representing Opus One was Chris Lynch, Chief Executive Officer, who was on his maiden visit to the country, accompanied by the winery's Southeast Asia Export Manager, Louis Cancel, whose insights into Opus One's enduring legacy and its Franco-American heritage added a fascinating dimension to the evening.



The event soared on the music of pianist Hii Mei Lin, the first Malaysian to grace the stage of Carnegie Hall. Hii's repertoire was a stunning reminder of Malaysia's own cultural richness, and earned her rapturous applause. The accolades continued to flow as the specially curated meal was presented. Planned by Sabayon's Chef de Cuisine, Steve Ariffin, the meal framed the vertical tasting of Opus One vintages with flair, pairing butter-poached turbot with Opus One 2015's seductive notes of violet, black tea, and sage; and lamb roulade with the elegant balance of Opus One 2013. Other wines in the tasting included Opus One 2014, 2016 and 2021 which were complemented and elevated by Sabayon's award-winning culinary team, whose meticulously crafted gourmet pairings were designed to the nuances of each wine. The finesse and creativity of the meal reflected Sabayon's commitment to redefining luxury dining in Malaysia.



The oenological highlight of the exclusive event was the debut of Overture 2021, which was uncorked for the very first time in Asia by Chris Lynch. In keeping with the tradition of many great Bordeaux estates, Opus One produces a fine second wine, Overture, which is the natural extension of the creation of Opus One. Overture is described as the timeless expression of the estate's vineyards, which reflects the winemaker's artistry by showcasing the talent of blending five traditional Bordeaux grape varieties and capturing terroir characteristics of the same variety grown in different soils.

"This event was a true celebration of culture, craftsmanship, and connection," said Gerard Walker, General Manager of EQ. "Sabayon is proud to be a platform for such world-class collaborations, and we are committed to delivering even more unforgettable experiences to our discerning guests. EQ and Sabayon extend our heartfelt thanks to Bordeaux Liquid Gold, Opus One, and all who attended this momentous evening."

More events of culinary interest are upcoming at Sabayon. For more details, join us on EQ's social accounts and website.

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### **About EQ**

EQ is part of Hotel Equatorial's legacy and is celebrating its fifth decade in the hospitality industry. The hotel is Travel + Leisure Luxury Awards Asia Pacific #1 Hotel in Malaysia 2022 – 2024 and #35 Travel + Leisure Readers' 100 Favourite Hotels in the World for 2023. Occupying the top floors of the award-winning 52-storey Equatorial Plaza, the hotel offers 440 stylish rooms, state-of-the-art banquet and meeting facilities, and an array of signature restaurants and bars such as the Bottega the lounge, Nipah the all-day dining restaurant, Kampachi Japanese Restaurant, as well as the impressive, must-visit Sky51 consisting of Sabayon, a contemporary European restaurant, and Blue, a stylish lounge with an outdoor bar offering the most stunning panoramas of the city. The 5-star hotel is also Green Building Index (GBI) Gold-certified making it one of the most energy and resource-efficient buildings in the country. Other facilities include Sanctum Wellness with its unique spa, 25m infinity pool, vitality Jacuzzi and state-of-the-art fitness centre.

Website: [www.eqkualalumpur.equatorial.com](http://www.eqkualalumpur.equatorial.com)

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