

**FOR: MA(i)SONRY NAPA VALLEY**  
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**MA (i) SONRY**  
NAPA VALLEY

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**MA(i)SONRY NAPA VALLEY, A LIVING GALLERY CREATED BY  
BLACKBIRD VINEYARDS' PROPRIETOR MICHAEL POLENSKE,  
DEBUTS THIS FALL IN YOUNTVILLE, CA.**

*Pairing artisan wines with exquisite art and furnishings in a historic setting,  
Polenske's latest venture is a true celebration of "a life aesthetic."*

(YOUNTVILLE, CA; October, 2008)—The highly anticipated opening of Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley early this fall features the restoration of a prominent, historic building into an intimate, stylized gallery for those seeking the experience of “a life aesthetic.” Poetically termed a living gallery, Ma(i)sonry will serve as Napa Valley’s premier setting for the appreciation of inspired architecture, design, world class works of art and furnishings, while providing guests the opportunity to taste and acquire limited production, boutique wines from prominent winegrowing regions.

Founded by Michael Polenske, proprietor of the acclaimed Blackbird Vineyards, Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley inhabits a beautifully restored, 104-year-old private stone residence in Yountville, California. One of only two buildings in Yountville listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley is no ordinary art gallery or wine tasting venue, but a destination in its own right. As a living gallery, guests can enjoy or acquire art and furnishings that encompass works from 16<sup>th</sup>-century European craftsmen to contemporary artists and designers, all while savoring artisan wines. “We wanted to create a destination where wine and art came together in a way that would enhance our guests’ enjoyment of both,” Polenske says. “Ma(i)sonry is in every way a celebration of life’s aesthetics. Every collection on site has been created by the hand of an artist, artisan, or designer, and, of course, that includes the wine.”

Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley is unique in that it will showcase a rotating collection of wines from limited production, boutique wineries. Founding collective partners include Blackbird Vineyards, with Brown Estate, Joel Gott Wines, Lail Vineyards, Pedras Wine Company, and Renteria Wines joining in November, 2008. Ma(i)sonry's portfolio of winery collective partners will continue to evolve, and will seasonally rotate throughout the year. Guests will have a variety of choices for their wine-tasting experience—from one of the three private rooms in the historic house or the outdoor gardens, which are landscaped around architectural remnants, contemporary sculpture, a stone fire pit and century-old olive trees that frame a 36-foot long communal redwood table.

One of only three original stone buildings in Yountville, it was built in 1904 as a private residence for Charles Rovengo, and, in addition to its National Register status, is listed on the Napa County Historic Resources Inventory. Designed and built by an Italian mason with stone from local quarries, it represents a notable period of design and has been restored to its original grandeur by principal architect Doug Thornley, of San Francisco-based Gould Evans Baum Thornley. The adaptive reuse of the building included retaining many of the structure's original building materials to protect its historical integrity. Ma(i)sonry's intimate, contemporary design aesthetic was executed with consulting designer, Erin Martin and the collaboration of landscape architects, ROCHE + ROCHE.

Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley currently features internationally renowned furnishings, art and designs from Ron Mann, Alexandra von Furstenberg, Hudson Furniture, and Citizen: *Citizen*, to name a few. In addition, Ma(i)sonry offers vintage pieces by the likes of Eames, Louis Vuitton and Bertoia among other distinguished design collections. Rotating artist exhibitions and furnishings will vary throughout the year.

Located only yards away from The French Laundry, Chef Thomas Keller's three star Michelin rated restaurant, Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley takes its place amid a burgeoning neighborhood of unsurpassed excellence while providing an intimate backdrop for private events hosted with luxury brands—including, fashion, lifestyle media, jewelry, private aviation, restaurants and resorts.

Throughout this fall season, guests are welcome to peruse the design and art collections from 9am – 10pm seven days per week. Wine tastings will be available without an appointment, but reservations are highly recommended. Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley is located at 6711 Washington St. in Yountville, CA. For additional information, please call 707.944.0889 or visit [www.maisonry.com](http://www.maisonry.com).

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