

For immediate release

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## **LOCAL VINTNER'S HAWAIIAN BAND AT COPIA PERFORMANCE ON MAY 31 INCLUDES FREE WINE TASTING**

Napa, May 2007----*The Maikai Gents Featuring The Mysterious Miss Mauna Loa* will perform at COPIA: The American Center for Wine, Food & The Arts on Thursday, May 31 at 8:00 p.m. "You can experience 1950s Waikiki with us," promises Judd Finkelstein, the founder and leader of the band, which released its first CD last year, *The Wiki Wiki Grog Shop*. Judd Finkelstein is Napa Valley's most well-known ukulele playing winemaker. He performs lead vocals and the ukulele; The Mysterious Miss Mauna Loa is an authentic hula dancer (Judd's wife Holly Finkelstein). The band was formed in 2002; in the ensuing years the band has played all over the United States and most frequently in its home base of northern California and Napa Valley. As *The Honolulu Star-Bulletin* wrote during Judd's visit there earlier this month, "Judd plays the ukulele with impressive skill."

Judd, who will be playing an unusual ukulele called a "Pineapple Sunday," is known on stage as "luka Grogg;" the rest of the band consists of guitar, upright bass and Hawaiian steel guitar musicians as well as The Mysterious Miss Mauna Loa.

Ticket holders will be able to enjoy a complimentary tasting of wines from Judd's Hill from 7:00 p.m. on preceding the performance. Tickets are \$20 general public, \$18 for members of COPIA. The Maikai Gents' CD will be available for sale as well as Maikai Gents-themed tshirts. The performance will include a virtual 'backdrop,' with photos and scenes from Hawaiian musical history. An unusual aspect of the performance is that Judd will be performing on a limited-production ukulele (The Pineapple Sunday) given to him as a sign of respect by KoAloha Ukulele Company, one of Hawaii's most respected workshops making hand-crafted ukuleles.

COPIA: The American Center for Wine, Food & The Arts is located at 500 First Street in Napa (94559); tickets can be purchased by calling 707/259-1600 or 888/512-6742 or online at [www.copia.org](http://www.copia.org).

Judd's Hill Winery, to celebrate Judd's performance, is offering all those who attend the performance a free wine tasting at the winery on Friday, June 1 from 12:00 noon until 2:00 p.m. You must bring your COPIA ticket with you and you

must call ahead to reserve: the winery is located at 2332 Silverado Trail in Napa (94558); the phone is 707/255-2332.

Judd's Hill Winery is owned and operated by two generations of the Finkelstein family. Founders Art and Bunnie, joined by Judd and Holly, their son and daughter-in-law, are dedicated to producing ultra-premium, handcrafted wines. The Finkelsteins have been making wine in Napa Valley since the 1970s and continue to produce signature wines that are fruit-driven, concentrated and eminently drinkable. Their annual production is less than 3,000 cases. Judd's Hill MicroCrush ([www.napamicrocrush.com](http://www.napamicrocrush.com)) is a custom winemaking service within the Judd's Hill operation. Since 1992, MicroCrush has been making small lots, as little as one barrel, of hand-crafted customized wine for a range of clients, from vineyard owners to wine enthusiasts. The service is all-inclusive, from fruit sourcing through bottling. MicroCrush has helped launch several commercial brands as well as fulfill the dreams of wine aficionados from around the world.

Coverage of Judd's recent visit to Hawaii:  
<http://starbulletin.com/2007/05/07/features/story01.html>

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