



MEDIA RELEASE BOCUSE D'OR AUSTRALIA

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre Senior Sous Chef, Russell Clarke was last night selected to represent Australia in the 2011 Bocuse d'Or International Cooking Competition, known as the greatest *World Cuisine contest* in Lyon in France, the 25th and the 26th January, organised by Romain Bapst President Bocuse D'Or Australia and his committee.

Russell and his assistant chef, Mathew Lee were selected as Team Australia for the biennial world chef championships from a strong field of five teams from Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, including former international competition winners.

A team of 30 international and Australian judges including chief judge Mr. John Miller (OAM) and Black hat, International Chief Judge Mr. Jacky Freon the first winner of the Bocuse D'Or in 1987, two stars Michelin French chef Emmanuel Renaut and some of Australia's most respected chefs, Jacques Reymond and Philippe Mouchel of Melbourne and Alain Fabregues of Perth made their selection during a five and a half hours cooking marathon yesterday.

The Director of the Bocuse D'Or Mr. Florent Suplisson described the event as a triumph for the organisers, and the level of the candidates was of a great international standard.

The announcement was made by President Bocuse d'Or Australia selection Romain Bapst at the Bocuse d'Or Presentation Dinner held for the first time in Brisbane at the Convention Centre on Monday night.

The Bocuse d'Or (Concours mondial de la cuisine – world cuisine contest) considered the world's most prestigious cooking competition has become the most sought after prize for young chefs world-wide and provides a professional springboard for young talent in international gastronomy.

Russell will go to Geneva now in June to observe the European competition. He will work the six months full-time training and then fly to Lyon in January to contest the world title.

The runner-up Shannon Kellam of the Brisbane Club will cook-up a storm at the prestigious Trophee Passion competition in Paris in October, organised by the Academie Culinaire of France.

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