



Milk & Honey bartender Bobby Hiddleston shows how it's done at the Cocktail Challenge

# Mixing it WIP

The results of the annual Drinks International Cocktail Challenge are in. Lucy Britner presents the medal winners



The Cocktail Challenge judges (clockwise from top left): Amit Sood, of Shaker UK; Christian Davis, Drinks International editor, Antoni Heatley, of Cutlass Communications; Lucy Britner, Drinks International deputy editor; Daniel Crebese, UK Bartenders' Guild president; Julian Shaw, of Gorgeous Group



**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Such is Leaf**  
La Penca Mezcal

Mangrove

**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Toddy Tapper**  
Ceylon Arrack

Mangrove

If last year belonged to Bacardi, this year is certainly Pernod Ricard's. The company triumphed with its Plymouth gin (Hunky Dory), Olmeqa tequila (Jasmine Tea Margarita) and Chivas Regal 18 year old scotch (Aberdeen Flip) to take home three golds.

It wasn't a bad day for Mangrove and its Santa Teresa rums, either. 1796 (Tiers of Joy) and Rhum Orange (Orange Flip-flop) took gold for their cocktails. The sixth gold went to Diego Zamora's Licor 43 for Daiquiri Espanol.

The trophies for each category – aperitif, long drink and after dinner drinks – will be announced in July at the Drinks International 40th birthday. I know, we don't look that old, do we? Do we?! We'll also award an overall trophy to the all-singing, all-dancing 2012 Cocktail Challenge Champion.

We awarded six golds, 14 silvers and 12 bronzes – not bad for a day's work. 'We' means me and our judges, who were Shaker UK's Amit Sood, Gorgeous Group's Julian Shaw, Antoni Heatley from Cutlass Communications, DI editor Christian Davis and UK Bartenders' Guild president Daniel Crebese. The final took place at Shaker & Co, London.

**GOLD**

**Aperitifs**

**Hunky Dory**  
Plymouth gin

Chivas Brothers  
(Pernod Ricard)

**GOLD**

**Aperitifs**

**Tiers of Joy**  
Santa Teresa  
1796

Mangrove

**GOLD**

**Long Drinks**

**Jasmine Tea**  
Margarita  
Olmeqa Altos  
Plata

Pernod Ricard

**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Cranberry**  
**Martinez**  
Finlandia  
Cranberry

Brown Forman

**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Chilly Chile**  
**Chilli**  
Pisco Alba

Mangrove

**GOLD**

**After Dinner**

**Daiquiri Espanol**  
Licor 43

Diego Zamora

**GOLD**

**After Dinner**

**Aberdeen Flip**  
Chivas Regal 18  
year old

Chivas Brothers  
(Pernod Ricard)

**GOLD**

**After Dinner**

**Orange Flip-Flop**  
Santa Teresa  
Rhum Orange

Mangrove

**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Mexican**  
**Butterfly**  
El Jimador  
Blanco

Mangrove

**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Standing Alone**  
No 209 Gin

Hi Spirits



# Cocktail Challenge



**SILVER**

**Aperitifs**

**Spanish Gold**  
Licor 43

Diego Zamora



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**Star Gazer**  
Pisco Alba

Mangrove



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**Obsession**  
Martin Millers  
Gin

Reformed Spirits  
Company



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**Garden Spring**  
Collins  
Hoxton Gin

Calabrese Harte  
Enterprises



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**Ay Caramba**  
El Jimador  
Reposado

Mangrove



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**43 Memories**  
Licor 43

Diego Zamora



**SILVER**

**Long Drinks**

**Colombo Cooler**  
Ceylon Arrack

Mangrove




**SILVER**

**After Dinner**

**Choco de Cana**  
Flor de Cana

Amathus




**BRONZE**

**Aperitifs**

**Love**  
Martin Millers gin

Reformed Spirits  
Company



**BRONZE**

**Aperitifs**

**Rhythm n Blues**  
Hoxton Gin

Calabrese Harte  
Enterprises



**BRONZE**

**Aperitifs**

**Rusty Bramble**  
Drambuie

Drambuie



**BRONZE**

**Long Drinks**

**Finlandia  
Raspberry  
Cloud**  
Finlandia

Brown-Forman



**BRONZE**

**Long Drinks**

**Eleanor**  
The Wild Geese  
Classic Blend  
Irish Whiskey

Avalon Group




**BRONZE**

**Long Drinks**

**Quantum of  
Molass**  
Santa Teresa  
Selecto

Mangrove



**BRONZE**

**Long Drinks**

**Buffalo Peach  
Buck**  
Buffalo Trace

Hi Spirits




**BRONZE**

**After Dinner**

**Honey & Thyme  
shot tail**  
Jameson

Irish Distillers




**BRONZE**

**After Dinner**

**Cup of Tea (Irish  
style)**  
The Wild Geese  
Rare Irish Whiskey

Avalon Group



**BRONZE**

**After Dinner**

**Rebel Cherry  
Flip**  
Rebel Yell

Amathus




**BRONZE**

**After Dinner**

**Cricketers  
Cappuccino**  
Ceylon Arrack

Mangrove



**BRONZE**

**After Dinner**

**Decadent and  
Sinful**  
Fireball

Hi Spirits