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The Wandering Eater

Ultimate Blast 2011

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The crowd at Ultimate Blast 2011

Last Friday, October 14th was the 2nd annual **Ultimate Blast 2011** at Marriott Marquis Hotel in Times Square. This huge spirits and wine gala showcased "the best of the best" spirits, cocktails and wine for ticketholders to sip and savor. Many of the exhibitors of various spirits, cocktails and wines poured for the evening have been awarded high honors at the Ultimate Beverage Challenge (UBC) competitions held earlier this year at **Astor Center**.

Here's some of the highlights of the evening:



Food

There was a spread of food ranging from a variety of delicious cheeses, sourced from **Murray's Cheese**, to some prepared hot foods to satiate your hunger – as well as let you drink a few more drinks. There was a **live band performing** as well.



Remy Martin XO Cognac & Louis Royer Cognac

Remy Martin XO Cognac which is one of the premier cognacs in the world, was amazing. It's smooth, balanced and the incredible depth of flavors (delicately floral and rich dark fruits) linger on my palate for at least 10 minutes. If you are a cognac sipper, you would understand why it's considered one of the best.

The new comer to the U.S. market, **Louis Royer** did sample out their 32-Year Old vintage cognac. As interestingly complex its flavors were (in a very good way), unfortunately, it is not available to be sold here. The Force 53 was a younger blend but still smooth and delicious.



Adult Chocolate Milk

For something that is somewhat nostalgic is **Adult Chocolate Milk**. It's for the person who would like to drink sweet cocktails, as this was mixed into a chocolate martini. If you have it straight (or neat), it tasted like it's named.

There were so many more very good to amazing drinks and cocktails to drink there, as there were over 300 whiskies, brandies, armangacs, cognacs, tequilas, rums, and more; over 120 wines, and book signings from authors like Jim Meehan of PDT. It was a very good start for the weekend.

To view more photos of this event, please click through the slideshow:

flickr « thewanderingeater's Ultimate Blast 2011 set Share

A wide-angle photograph of a large indoor event space. The room is dimly lit with prominent purple and red lighting. Several round tables with white tablecloths are set up. In the foreground, there is a long bar counter with various bottles and glasses. People are seen moving around the room. The ceiling features large, glowing purple light fixtures. Navigation arrows are visible on the left and right sides of the image.

Information:
Ultimate Blast 2011
Website: <http://www.ultimate-beverage.com/blast-2011/>
at Marriott Marquis Hotel

Online at: <http://thewanderingeater.com/2011/10/18/ultimate-blast-2011/>