



Media release

25th St. Moritz Gourmet Festival, 12th to 20th January 2018

Change of guest chef line-up: Bakker replaces Bril

Family reasons have forced Nick Bril to withdraw as a guest chef at the 25th St. Moritz Gourmet Festival. Dutchman Syrco Bakker, an equally exceptional Michelin-star chef from Sergio Herman's pool of talent, will be taking his place and pampering our festival guests in the Upper Engadine.

Gourmet cuisine lives from exceptional people who take responsibility for their profession and their guests. However, for a master chef, there are also times when he has to put his family first. "I am very sorry to have to let you know that I will not be able to participate at the 2018 St. Moritz Gourmet Festival, due to my daughter having recently developed certain health issues. Yesterday we received the medical treatment schedule and doctor appointments for the coming six months. During December and January, initial decisions and steps need to be taken ahead of the first of several operations. Luckily it is not a life threatening illness, but being with my daughter and family is of such great importance for me during this difficult period that I need to prioritise my agenda", explains Belgian master chef Nick Bril.

Herman's super talent

The organisers of the festival are convinced by the importance of this and fully understand Nick Bril's withdrawal. "We wish his daughter the very best and much strength to all the family for the coming months", said Philippe D. Clarinval, Director of the Carlton Hotel St. Moritz. He continues: "Syrco Bakker is very much a worthy and suitable replacement and we look forward very much, with him as guest chef, to feasting along with the guests in our restaurant on his modern interpretations of Flemish-Dutch cuisine with Asian notes." Syrco Bakker is Chef de Cuisine at the Pure C Restaurant, which was opened in 2010 right on the North Sea coast in Dutch Cadzand by his mentor Sergio Herman. Syrco Bakker's culinary style was awarded a Michelin-star in next to no time. Just like Nick Bril, the 33-year old is a longstanding pillar in celebrity chef Sergio Herman's team. Previously, Syrco Bakker had worked as Sous Chef in Sergio Herman's legendary three-star gourmet temple Oud Sluis. "Syrco is a super talent who is as passionate as I am", according to Sergio Herman. Nick Bril also confirmed, "I'm very happy that Syrco has spontaneously agreed to stand in for me and I am sure that he will more than enthrall the festival guests with his creations!"

Information about all nine top-quality master chefs who will be at the 2018 St. Moritz Gourmet Festival, along with full programme details and event tickets is available online at: www.stmoritz-gourmetfestival.ch.

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Accreditation for a participation at the St. Moritz Gourmet Festival is now possible online:
www.stmoritz-gourmetfestival.ch/en/accreditation

Text material, short portraits and photographs of the guest chefs can be downloaded in print resolution at:
www.stmoritz-gourmetfestival.ch/en/media

Print quality festival images can be downloaded at Swiss-Image: www.swiss-image.ch/gogourmetfestival