



SIMON BRYANT | BIOGRAPHY 2017

A completed motor mechanics apprenticeship in the early 80's, an incomplete Bachelor of Economics in the mid 80's while cooking in the University of Melbourne Kitchen for some extra cashand then a Chef.

A 25 year career starting in Thai and Indian fast service restaurants, a stint as a butcher, event caterer, brasserie line chef, and Chef de Partie in Cheong Liew's much applauded The Grange Restaurant. Hilton Adelaide's Executive Chef for 7 years from 2003 with various international posts showcasing South Australian produce in Russia, USA, Japan, China, Malaysia and Singapore.

Co-host of 152 episodes of ABC Television's "The Cook and the Chef" broadcast nationally from 2006 to 2009, with South Australian food icon Maggie Beer.

Author of "Vegies" (2012) and "Vegetables, Grains & Other Good Stuff" (2015); cookbooks published by Lantern Penguin, with 200 seasonal vegetarian recipes.

Festival Director for Tasting Australia 2018 – Australia's preeminent Food and Wine festival. Creative Director 2014, 2016 and 2017.

Director and Providore of dirt(y) inc; single origin, traceable, non GM, Australian grown wholefoods.

A keen and semi-competent organic home vegie gardener.

A passionate advocate of using menus to throw light on the minefield of ethical issues surrounding food. Whether it be fair prices for producers delivering more thoughtfully produced food; using best practice ingredients with minimal environmental impact; the responsible and culturally appropriate use of Australian native foods; or the ethical treatment of animals in the food chain.

.....Above all a hands-on cook of simple, pared-down, produce-driven, honest cooking that tastes better than just a bunch of words on a menu...

Ambassador for:

- Animals Asia Foundation
- The Animal Welfare League, SA
- RSPCA Choose Wisely Campaign
- Premium Food and Wine from South Australia's Clean Environment
- Oxfam GROW and FAIR
- Meat Free Week
- Adelaide Bee Sanctuary

Awards and Presentations include:

- 2007 Hotel Management Magazine Awards Excellence – Executive Chef of the Year
- 2008 Restaurant and Catering Association (SA) – Chef of the Year 2014 The Advertiser Food Awards – Vittoria Coffee, Adelaide Food Legend

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