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Cheers to Paderewski!
Limited-Edition Brew Honors Local Icon at 2015 Paderewski Festival

October 15, 2015 (Paso Robles, CA) - Ignacy Jan Paderewski is an icon of Paso Robles history - and now he will be celebrated with a locally brewed, Polish-style pilsner to commemorate the Festival held in his honor.

Produced by Firestone Walker Brewing Company in collaboration with the 2015 Paderewski Festival, the limited edition “Paderewski Pils” was dry-hopped with Polish hops, and then kegged without filtration.

The beer will be available in draft only at Firestone Walker Brewing Company starting on November 1, and it will also be available at select Paderewski Festival events. Firestone Walker Brewing Company is donating a portion of the proceeds from the beer to the Festival, which brings world-class music to the Central Coast each year.

A specially designed logo features an image of Paderewski and incorporates colors from the Polish flag. It will be featured on tap handles and Pilsner style glasses that are being produced for the festival. Held November 5 – 8, the [2015 Paderewski Festival](#) features concerts, film screenings, youth piano recitals and lectures at various venues throughout Paso Robles.

Hailed around the world as a virtuoso pianist who was one of the most recognizable figures of his day, Paderewski is also remembered as an accomplished composer, generous humanitarian, skilled politician and great Polish patriot. He traveled regularly to Paso Robles starting in 1914, and ultimately became a local winegrower and vintner.

“We thought that a local beer brewed in a Polish style would be a fitting tribute to Paderewski, a man who bridged cultures and embraced the Central Coast,” said Jamie Smith, Firestone Walker’s marketing director.

“We’re thrilled with this special beer that honors Paderewski,” said Joel Peterson, board member of the Festival. “What a fun and unique way to bring our history to modern day Paso Robles.”

To create Paderewski Pils, Brewmaster Matt Brynildson riffed on the brewery's acclaimed Pivo Pils, replacing the beer's primary Saphir hop with Polish hops called Lubelski and Marynka. Since production is limited, he also chose to make the beer in the classic unfiltered "keller" method often enjoyed at European brewpubs.

"When you go the unfiltered route, you get this soft mouthfeel, and the hop aromas really pop out of the glass," Brynildson said. "Leaving the beer unfiltered and serving it in a draft format is also how the beer would have likely been served in Paderewski's day. Dry-hopping with Lubelski and Marynka will also give the beer a distinctive profile."

He added, "Pilsner is one of the primary beer styles of Poland, as inherited from Bohemia. With Paderewski Pils, we wanted to blend both old and new world pilsner styles into one special beer."

Paderewski Festival

The Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles celebrates the legacy of Paso Robles' most famous resident, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, with four days of concerts and events featuring internationally renowned artists, young pianists, master classes, film screenings, and wine tastings. For more information about the 2015 Paderewski Festival and to purchase tickets, visit www.paderewskifest.com

Firestone Walker

Firestone Walker Brewing Company is a pioneering regional craft brewery founded in 1996 and located in Paso Robles and Buellton on California's Central Coast. The brewery specializes in iconic pale ales and vintage barrel-aged beers, along with wild ales made at its Barrelworks facility. Visit www.firestonebeer.com

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