

Sandra Jordan visits Potter Mellen with wine collection

By SALI McSHERRY

The elegant Sandra Jordan, of the Jordan Vineyard & Winery, breezed into town to introduce her art of decanting ensemble offered exclusively at Potter and Mellen Inc. in Cleveland.

When she was a young bride-to-be and living in Cleveland, her name was naturally on the bridal registry at Potter and Mellen.

Ceremony, beauty and function. These words begin to describe the vision behind the Sandra Jordan Collection. Heirloom quality, the distinctive decanting accessories, which are hand wrought, include Sterling 950 silver decanting funnel, hand-engraved wine stopper, and sommelier's tastevin; custom-made crystal Dominus Riedel decanter; and Sterling 950 silver fluted hammered pitcher and wine coasters with mahogany base and grape clusters. The lovely reception at Potter and Mellen obviously featured several of the fine wines from the Jordans' estate.

And doesn't serving it in a traditionally ceremonious manner further enhance the anticipation of drinking a fine wine?

The collection is inspired by Mrs. Jordan's wine country lifestyle she shares with her husband, Tom, a geologist. They founded the 1,500-acre Jordan Vineyard & Winery 30 years ago in Healdsburg, Calif., in the Alexander Valley — the essence of Sonoma wine country, and live in a chateau reminiscent of the

great chateau of Bordeaux.

The couple's interest in wine-related antiques has become a passion and an inspiration for the collection. Each piece, she said, is a combination of old-world techniques, modern innovation and utility. "Fine wines," Mrs. Jordan said, "deserve the best possible presentation, the time-honored ceremonies that bring people together, the art of hospitality." The collection also features handmade wine-serving tables built by craftsmen in a small village in France and using 300-year-old French wood-crafting techniques.

Through her travels and with exquisite taste, Mrs. Jordan sought original pieces that reflected timeless traditions and through collaboration with designers and craftsmen, reinterpreted them for the collection.

Mrs. Jordan, who grew up in Peru, began traveling the world at a young age, attended British schools and earned a degree in international affairs at the University of California at Berkeley and the MBA marketing program at Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

Her collection of lifestyle accessories is expanding and includes throws and pillows made from Peruvian baby alpaca wool, which she said, is as luxurious as cashmere and seven times warmer than sheep's wool.

Her collection can be found at Potter and Mellen, Gump's in San Francisco, and Bergdorf Goodman in New York City.



At Potter and Mellen, Sandra Jordan demonstrated using a Sterling 950 silver decanting funnel before pouring one of the Jordan Vineyard & Winery's bottles of fine wine, which include Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay, into a crystal decanter in order to let the wine breathe and reach its full potential and beauty.