

# BIOGRAPHIES

## SILK ROAD WINES



SILK  
ROAD

## CONTACT

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### YANICK ARAKELOV, CEO, OWNER

Adalbert (Yanick) Arakelov, co-founding partner and CEO of Silk Road Wines, was born in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. He emigrated to the U.S. as a teenager and attended the University of Florida where he earned a bachelor's in food and resource economics. While in college, Yanick achieved his dream of becoming an American citizen, and subsequently joined the U.S. Army as a logistics officer and was deployed to Afghanistan. He continues to serve his country as a major in the U.S. Army reserves. Yanick used his GI Bill stipend to earn an MBA from Rollins College. It was when he could not find his favorite Georgian wines in stores, he decided to import them, and began and grew his own business. When not working on the wine business or for the Army, Yanick can be found playing soccer with his boys or spending time with his wife, Sharon.



### BARRY GREER, OWNER

For Barry Greer, Silk Road Wines is his fourth career, having begun his career after graduating from The Ohio State University as a firefighter/paramedic where he began the continuing ed program in paramedics for the University of Miami. After retiring from the fire department, Barry started a marble and tile business, constructing a 17,000 -sf commercial warehouse in Boynton Beach, Fla., and purchasing a tile manufacturing plant in Monterrey Mexico. He also invested with some friends in the hotel business, and 18 years later, the company grew to become one of the top five hotel companies in the U.S. The group eventually sold the hotel company in 2017 to a Wall Street hotel firm. After selling his marble and tile business in 2019, he partnered with good friend Yanick Arakelov and entered the wine business with AG Global Trade LLC, the distribution firm for Georgian wines and is proud to be an owner of Silk Road Wines. Barry and

his wife Candy, who is also an owner of Silk Road Wines, have four children and seven grandchildren. He enjoys golfing and traveling in his spare time.



### SHARON ARAKELOV, OWNER

Sharon Arakelov grew up as a military brat, and moved around before settling in Florida, but considers Tampa her home. She attended the University of Florida where she earned a bachelor's degree in interior design, and a master's in building construction management. It was while attending UF that she met Yanick, and they've been together ever since. In 2012 Sharon began working for Barry Greer's tile company in Orlando, eventually becoming a partner in Greer Tile Company. Sharon invited Barry and Candy Greer to join her and husband Yanick on a vacation to the country of Georgia where they fell in love with the wine, and together formed the Silk Road Wines brand. Sharon has two young boys who are fast becoming world travelers as traveling is one of her passions.

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## CONTINUED

## CONTACT

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### CANDY GREER, OWNER

Candy Greer is a native of Tampa, Fla. and is one of the owners of Silk Road Wines. In working with her husband, Barry, she considers herself a 'jack of all trades' having been an executive secretary, office manager and a variety of other positions in the marble and tile industry. She's the proud mother of four children and seven grandchildren, and loves to cook, travel, read, paint, play golf and garden during her free time.



### CAMERON WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF EVENTS AND OPERATIONS

A native of Florida, Cameron has a strong background in the wine industry, having worked for ABC Fine Wine and Spirits for over seven years. Her enthusiasm for event planning comes naturally, having planned many events for her family's business, as well as local political organizations. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Keiser University, and in her off time, you can find Cameron curled up with a great book, at the beach or on an adventure with her beloved husky.



### ESMERALDA STRUYK, VP OF MARKETING & OPERATIONS

After earning her Bachelor's of Science in advertising and public relations from the University of Florida, Esmeralda entered the world of marketing to explore her passion in digital media and strategy through work as a digital coordinator at &Barr, and digital strategist at iHeart Media for the Orlando market. During her tenure at iHeart, she assisted in the development of the digital department through sales team support and education, and developed, presented and implemented digital campaigns for local Orlando businesses. During this time she discovered her passion for wine and decided to focus her career on helping bring awareness to Georgian wines. She continues to support the Silk Road brand.

## ADDRESS

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## IMPORTER | DISTRIBUTOR

AG Global Trade LLC  
is the importing and distribution company for the  
Silk Road Wines brand.

US Veteran Owned - Premium Georgian Wine Importer