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News



Food in art at the "fuoriExpo"

The Arts & Food pavilion, the only "out-of-the-Expo" event, currently housed at the Palazzo della Triennale in Milan, is quite the trove. There are almost a thousand works of art - objects, videos, photos, advertisement pieces, designs, installations, architecture, musical works, literature, and documents - which collectively narrate how art has told the tale of food, from tables to cooking instruments, and from cafés to restaurants. Starting from 1851, the year the first Expo opened in London, to the present day, and from Impressionism to Pop Art. The exhibition, curated by Germano Celant and created by the Italo Rota Studio, will be open until Nov. 15th.



SMS

Finally, the wine pavilion

The future of the entire Italian agrifood sector is tightly tied to the 2015 Milan Expo, and this goes for wine as well, as its players have bet big on what is arguably the biggest media and commercial event in the world. Wine will have its own pavilion, as WineNews told its readers months ago, created by Vinality, following the guidelines of a scientific committee that represents the productive world of Italian wine in its entirety, with the likes of Cotarella, Antinori, Guerrieri Gonzaga, Vallarino Gancia, Zonin and Mantovani. But, the pavilion itself is still shrouded in mystery: what will it be like, and when will construction start? All the answers are coming soon - according to rumours, next July 28th the Minister of Agriculture Maurizio Martina himself will raise the curtain...

Report

Internal opposition for ICANN

It looked like ICANN had found opponents only in Europe and Latin America regarding the introduction of the new .wine and .vin Internet top-level domains (TLD), but apparently the organization has found enemies inside the States as well. More than one association of winemakers has started protesting, like the ones in California, Long Island and Oregon, where the local winemakers association has asked its Senator, Ron Wyden (D-OR), to do "whatever possible to bury the new .vin and .wine TLDs".



CONSORZIO PROMOZIONE
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First Page

Quantities up, diseases a risk for the 2014 harvest

This last winter has definitely been mild all over Italy, but it has been very rainy as well - just like spring and summer, which is still not showing its true face and its traditional heat peaks. Nonetheless, August and September, which are the crucial months, are still to come, so the 2014 harvest could still be good, provided the sun finally shows up together with a warmer climate. These are the cards on the table regarding the upcoming harvest for "vineyard Italy", according to what some of the most authoritative Italian oenologists recently told WineNews. According to Leonardo Valenti, Roberto Cipresso, Riccardo Cotarella, Carlo Ferrini, Lorenzo Landi, Emiliano Falsini, Vincenzo Mercurio, Valentino Ciarla, Fabio Mecca and Maurizio Alongi, the vineyards are not currently in a bind due to water shortages, but are severely threatened by fungal diseases, especially late blight, which has shown up in vineyards in all regions of the country - the northern regions, furthermore, have also suffered from heavy hailstorms, which have struck some central areas as well. "Wet" florescence, then, but also lucky, since the grape bunches are more abundant this year than in the last few harvests. Of course, judgment is still out on the matter of the final results of the harvest, because if the rains do not stop and therefore, if fungal diseases continue to spread at the current rate - the grape population would surely shrink visibly. In the meantime, though, the vineyards are still green and reactive, and the vegetative phase is on going. 2014, then, will probably be a year where human intervention in the vineyards will be even more decisive than usual, and where organic vineyards will suffer more than others, given their stricter criteria on the matter. It might turn out that the 2014 harvest will walk in the footsteps of the one of 2013, unless the weather changes dramatically and temperatures shoot up like they did in 2011. If that happens, 2014 will be a markedly cool vintage, with richer aromas and perhaps a little less concentration. Will it be a late harvest? It could be, but definitely far from the "run for the cuts" that we witnessed back in the vintages of 2007 or of 2011.

Focus

Vinality's "ambassadors" of wine

Commercial expertise is one of the most sought-after skills that wine producers look for in their personnel. But on a global market, being a good salesman is not enough, since one needs to be able to communicate the values and the characteristics of Italian wine on those markets where a wine culture is not present, or where there is one, but it does not include Italy. There is need for, in a nutshell, ambassadors of Italian wine. They are rare specimens indeed, since so far no one has tried to train them properly. This is the motivation that has given birth to the "Vinality International Academy", the first certification dedicated to wine lovers and wine professionals, created by Stevie Kim, Managing Director of Vinality International. There are two separate courses - "Italian Wine Ambassador" and "Italian Wine Expert", both curated by wine writer and Scientific Director of the Academy, Ian D'Agata. The goal is to create a communication standard, made of rigorous and scientific information, about the entire universe of Italian wine, from the varieties to the production zones and the various types of wine, through lessons, seminars and tastings held by the most important wine experts in Italy.



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Wine & Food

2014 "high-risk vintage for organic wine", says Professor Moio

Luigi Moio, Professor of Oenology at Naples University and winemaker with his Quintodecimo winery in Irpinia, has few doubts about the forthcoming harvest. "The high incidence of rain on vineyards might raise yields, but it will be a problem, especially for those that have chosen organic or biodynamic production. This year", he concluded, "will show what everyone already knows: these productive choices are not applicable to all circumstances, but need particular conditions, and in the last few years many have chosen these methods mainly for marketing reasons".

For the record

Andrea Bocelli awarded the Masi Prize

World-famous tenor Andrea Bocelli will receive the 33rd Masi "Civiltà del Vino" prize next Sept. 27th at the winery in Valpolicella, "because through his artistic expertise,

together with his passion as a winemaker, he contributes to the prestige of wine, spreading the message that a bottle of wine is a bottle of happiness".

