



Italian Weekly Wine News.it



Issue 211 - Aug. 10th-15th, 2015 - Expressly for wine lovers, professionals and opinion leaders the world over
Registration number 709, Courthouse of Siena, March 31st, 2001 - Editor-in-chief: Alessandro Regoli

News



Wild seaside vines in Sicily

In Menfi, Sicily, on the Lido Fiori beach, one can find wild vines growing ten feet from the water. And that is the place where Mandrarossa (Cantine Settesoli) have just begun the harvest. "It might be Inzolia or Catarratto", Filippo Buttafuoco, an agronomist from Settesoli, stated, "and they are in all probability the remains of ancient vineyards. The roots are almost in the seawater, and that is why their remarkable tenacity should be studied". Franco Gagliano, from the Regional Authority's Agriculture Department, called them "A unique and historic heritage: they probably are survivors of phylloxera, and might have been used to repopulate the vineyards of nearby lands".

First Page

The world's most valuable Italian wines

According to the latest data collected on www.wine-searcher.com - one of the leading websites worldwide for users searching for prices of all kinds of wine - Barolo Collina Rionda Bruno Giacosa (981 Dollars per bottle), Ornellaia Vendemmia d'Artista Special Edition (806 Dollars) and Barolo Riserva Giacomo Conterno (686 Dollars per bottle) are the three top Italian wines in the world, as far as price goes. The data comes out of analysing over 54.881 catalogues of wine shops across the globe, and has been used to compile a ranking of the top 50 bottles in the world with the highest price tags. The prices are still a far cry from those that are typical of the world's very top, where the top 50 wines are all French, with the exception of a few Californian and German bottles and with Richebourg Grand Cru by Henri Jayet at no less than 15.195 Dollars. As far as Italy goes, the top Italian wines are mainly from Piedmont (25), Tuscany (17) and Veneto (6), and with quite respectable price tags to boot. Masseto costs 680 Dollars a bottle, followed by Barolo Falletto Riserva Giacosa at 647 Dollars and Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Riserva Quintarelli, at 633. The "top 10" also includes, in this order, Brunello di Montalcino Biondi Santi Tenuta Greppo, around 566 Dollars per bottle, Barolo Riserva Giacomo Conterno (at 531 Dollars), Brunello di Montalcino Case Basse Gianfranco Soldera at 480 Dollars, and Barbaresco Cricchet Paje Roagna at 448. Vin Santo di Montepulciano Occhio di Pernice Avignonesi is at spot number 11, at 447 Dollars per bottle, followed by two more wines by Quintarelli, "Alzero" Cabernet Veneto at 409 Dollars and "Amabile del Cere" Passito Bianco Veneto at 400. Then, in the top 20 spots, come Barolo Monprivato Ca d'Morissio Riserva Giuseppe Mascarello e Figlio at 392 Dollars, Recioto della Valpolicella Vigneto di Monte Lodoletta Dal Forno, Recioto della Valpolicella Classico Quintarelli (at 372 Dollars), Amarone della Valpolicella Vigneto Monte Lodoletta Dal Forno (364 Dollars), Vin Santo di Montepulciano Avignonesi at 364, Sori San Lorenzo Gaja at 359 and Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Quintarelli at 358.



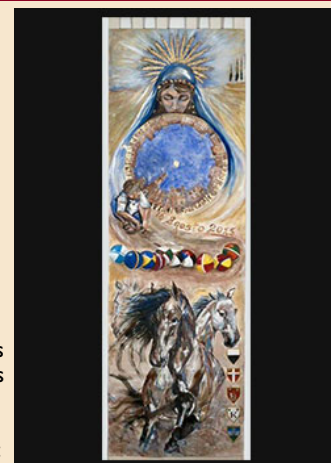
Slow Food & Lingotto

It would be hard to imagine the "Salon of Taste" and "Mother Earth" not in the LingottoFiere building of Turin (owned by French firm GI Events), after a journey that began in 1996, since that journey has made Slow Food one of the most authoritative voices of biodiversity and "safe, good and fair" food. Still, as Turin daily "La Stampa" reported, the 2016 edition has run into a few issues. The managers at Lingotto have postponed until September the meeting to discuss the sum to ask Slow Food. "It is not only a matter of money", Slow Food's Roberto Burdese told WineNews, "we want to know more, and we would like to keep on going with the Lingotto". Giada Michetti, CEO of GI Events Italia, said that "Slow Food and Lingotto are a rock-solid duo, we'll find a solution".

Focus

A wine-coloured Palio

The latest Palio standard, painted by Florentine artist Elisabetta Rogai and shown to the public last Monday at Siena's Teatro dei Rinnovati, aims to unite tradition, the will to create a strong bond with the territory and the history of Siena, and innovation, through the use of unconventional painting methods. So what's new? The silk of the "drappellone" was indeed painted using wine and fruits of the land, together with the usual colours. "Every artist dreams of creating a Palio, sooner or later" Elisabetta Rogai told WineNews, "since Siena is very famous for its wines, it is only fair to pay tribute to its world-renowned products, like Brunello and Chianti, in the standard as well". And that is how the colours of Siena's wines are tipping their hat to the world's most famous horse race. "The artist", a press release from the Municipality reads, "has made Siena, the Palio and its products known to the entire world, with its excellent quality of life, unique landscapes, elements and colours like those of a horse race that is simply unique". The message chimes with the one of the Expo: "feeding all respecting our habitat, for a correct sustainability of resources".



Report

Italian exports going strong

Minister of Agriculture Maurizio Martina has commented on the very positive exports data published by ISTAT in June, speaking of "an unprecedented result. In the first half of 2015 we've exported wine & food products for 18 billion Euros. An increase of more than 8% year-over-year, and that is also because of the positive influx of Expo. Italian Food products in the United States" he also stated, "have gone up 29%, reporting 1.7 billion Euros in sales in the first half of this year. These are record numbers".



CONSORZIO PROMOZIONE
CARIGNANO DEL SULCIS



Wine & Food

Italian sparklings rule both domestic and foreign markets

Italian wine exports between January and April 2015 have gone down 1.8% in volume and up 6.2% in value, according to institute ISMEA, thanks to both DOP (up 6% in value) and IGP wines (up 4%). But sparkling wines are on a roll: up 25.9% in volume, to 731.376 hectolitres, and 26.3% in value, to 258.5 million Euros. No less than 70% of those bottles are Prosecco, while Asti has gone down 17.6% in volume and 20.8% in value, and the best markets for them are the States and the UK - but the domestic market is doing well too: 1.2% growth in volume and 1.8% in value.

For the record

Monferrato's Villa Boema to become Chinese

According to Italian daily "La Stampa", a Chinese firm specialized in the production of lifts has just bought Villa Boema winery in Cuccaro Monferrato, Piedmont (12 hectares of vineyards, for a yearly production of 80 to 90.000 bottles). The winery used to be owned by renowned Swedish football coach Niels Liedholm.

