



**News**



**The Oscars of Italian wine**

Italian wine has unveiled its "Oscars" during an exclusive gala dinner at the Rome Cavalieri Hilton, directed by Franco Ricci, patron of Bibenda and of the Fondazione Italiana Sommelier. Amarone della Valpolicella Classico 2011 Allegrini, Grecante 2014 Caprai, Rosso dei Vespa 2014 Futura 14, Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo 2014 Valentini, Brut Metodo Classico Nebolè 2010 Travaglini, Alto Adige Gewürztraminer Vendemmia Tardiva Terminum 2012 Tramin and Conegliano Valdobbiadene Superiore Cartizze Private 2013 Bisol all received awards, and the "Best Winery" award was given to Petra, the Suvereto-based winery of the Terra Moretti Group designed by Mario Botta.



**A slower pace**

Even though wine demand in non-EU countries has gone up a remarkable 17.2% in value in the first two months of 2016, Italy has only gone up a (still notable) 7.6%. The data comes from the latest Nomisma/WineMonitor analysis for Business Strategies, and even if it is far from a warning cry, it is still something to keep in mind. Italy is still growing, but at a slower pace compared to its competitors, both in emerging markets, like China, where its 14.8% growth is a far cry from the average (+59%), and in traditional ones, where growing 12.2% is definitely not enough to keep the pace with other countries, which have gone up 21.3% on average. Promotion, therefore, is still key, keeping in mind which countries, fads aside, are really important for Italian wine...

**Report**

**Italian sparklings for UIV**

Exports of Italian sparklings have gone up 15.3% in volume, led by Prosecco, but down 2.3% in value to 1.092 billion Dollars, according to a report by Corriere Vinicolo - UIV. This is due to a stronger Dollar: without that, the value of exports would've gone up 10%. The U.S. and the UK are the main markets, with 95.8 million liters (up 12.6% over 2014, to 983 million Dollars) and 130.9 million liters (up 8.7%, to 880 millions). Germany is stable (up 1.2%), and Russia has gone down 35.2% in volume and 50% in value.



**First Page**

**Thousand-faced Sicily looks to the future**

The picture of Sicilian wine that emerges from the 2016 edition of "Sicilia en Primeur" is one where the strength of an ever-increasing quality is the backbone of an unparalleled diversity of varieties and territories, that can showcase itself under a single brand and that enjoys a growing synergy with the many extraordinary monuments, landmarks and landscapes that the island has in abundance, and where tourism is reinforced by its wine and wineries, as well as by modern digital tools. The event, as Francesco Ferreri, President of Assovini Sicilia, explained, "showcases our extraordinary region and its variety of landscapes, territories and grape varieties, which make it a "wine continent" in its own regard". Assovini Sicilia represents more than 85% of all bottled Sicilian wine, for a combined turnover of over 300 million Euros, which is increasingly finding its way beyond national borders (3 out of every 5 bottles). The island has over 20 different denominations, but has decided to tell its story under the collective image of DOC Sicilia, without sacrificing individual identities and local peculiarities. As Antonio Rallo, President of DOC Sicilia, pointed out, "in a time where vineyards in Sicily have dropped to almost below 100.000 hectares, our quota of bottled wine has gone up, with DOC Sicilia going over 24 million bottles, 62.3% of all Sicilian denominations. Territorial denominations, though (DOCG Cerasuolo di Vittoria and DOC Noto, Vittoria, Etna, Menfi, Contessa Entellina and Contea di Sclafani, which nonetheless use the term Sicily on the label), have grown 14.3% as well". Sicilian wine is also a big part of the success of its tourism sector, and, thanks to receptive and specialized wineries, is increasingly more focused toward wine tourism and less tied to seasonal fluctuations, as Mariangela Cambria, VP of Assovini, pointed out. Local institutions are betting on wine tourism as well, together with private enterprises, and have done so with the launch of the www.wineinsicily.com website: Regional Council Member for Tourism Anthony Barbagallo has also announced additional projects related to that (like an upcoming "Sideways"-style movie in Sicily).

**Focus**

**In Sicily, wine helps culture**

Sicily and its history are not the only things that unite the Archeological Parks of Agrigento's and Selinunte's Valle dei Templi. The two share a project centered on wine, which contributes to the preservation of these two Italian jewels: in Agrigento, together with the park's management, CVA Canicatti has given new life to Diodoros wine, allowing the park to receive "more than 6.000 Euros in royalties with the first vintage", President Giovanni Greco told WineNews, "sold in 2014, and production will go from 6.000 to 10.000 bottles from this year on". In Selinunte, meanwhile, Cantine Settesoli, "thanks to an agreement with the Regional Authority, is now an official fundraising body", General Director Salvatore Li Petri pointed out, "in order to collect 500.000 Euros for the park that is the backdrop of our vineyards, with a series of initiatives that will start in September, beginning with a 10-cent donation for each of our bottles sold in mass retail". In the Archeological Natural Reservation of Mozia, meanwhile, Tasca d'Almerita has been producing Grillo for almost a full decade, giving more than 200.000 Euros in royalties to the Whitaker Foundation, owner of the island.



A CAMPAIGN FINANCED ACCORDING TO EC REGULATION N. 1308/2013



MONTEFALCO SAGRANTINO

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**Wine & Food**

**Wine consumption in Italy down, says OIV data**

OIV just released its "Conjoncture viticole mondiale: évolutions et tendances" report, and it also contained data regarding wine consumption in 2015: Italy has dropped from the podium of wine-consuming countries for the very first time, and is now paired with Germany, to 20.5 million hectoliters, after France (27.2 million) and the United States, at the top of the ranking with 30.1 million hectoliters. According to the OIV, as WineNews already pointed out, global consumption is stable to 240 million hectoliters, up one million year-over-year.

**For the record**

**A new President for Barolo, Barbaresco**

Orlando Pecchenino is the new President of the Consortium of Barolo, Barbaresco, Alba, Langhe and Dogliani: "Barolo and Barbaresco", he told WineNews, "are the wines

that have made this territory great, but a lot more can be done regarding wines such as Dolcetto, Barbera, Nascetta, Pelaverga and all the other denominations of Langhe".

