

Tasting Notes of Roger C. Bohmrich, MW

The following Tre Bicchieri winners were tasted in New York in February 2012.

WHITE WINES

Elena Walch Gewurztraminer “Kastelaz” 2010, Alto Adige **+**

An ultraclean nose exhibiting a remarkably true expression of Gewurztraminer, with inviting aromatic notes of lychee and fresh apricot. Beautiful presence on the palate: fleshy yet precisely defined by a fine edge of acidity. Very pure, perfumed and complex.

Belisario Verdicchio di Matelica Cambrugiano Riserva 2008 ****

Light gold. Lovely dried yellow fruits (peach) with very good intensity. Fresh, clean. Subtle at first, gains in intensity through finish. Faint honey and peach accents in finale.

Valentini Trebbiano d’Abruzzo 2009 ****

Concentrated, restrained aroma with nuances of toast, honey and dried yellow fruits. Starts slowly, gains in aromatic intensity and expression in the mouth. Firms up and reveals a suggestion of tannin. Very long, toasty, blanched almond aftertaste. This wine has great appeal and a distinctive personality.

Livio Felluga Terre Alte 2009, Colli Orientali del Friuli (Friulano, Pinot Bianco, Sauvignon) ****

Bright yellow gold. Intense, inflected aroma with flinty-herbal highlights. Very clean, well-balanced and highly expressive. Intriguing mélange of yellow fruits, minerals and herbs. Has good weight and flesh. Individual wine with an unusual range of flavors.

Pietracupa Greco di Tufo 2010 ****

Pale yellow gold. Fresh, subtle nose with fine, focused yellow fruits. Fres and particularly racy for Greco. Lingering aromatic lift.

RED WINES

Torre dei Beati Montepulciano d’Abruzzo “Cocciapazza” 2008 ****

Dense black purple. Subdued, rich, dense nose marked by black fruits and berries. Concentrated, very generous black fruits are revealed in the mouth. Fresh acidity and moderate tannic grip. Oak is quite evident in the finish, but there is plenty of fruit as well.

Barba Montepulciano d’Abruzzo “I Vasari” 2008 *(*)**

Dense black red. Beautiful pure scent of black fruits with very good substance. Ample layered fruit married with French oak. Has attractive texture and fresh, clean ending with a touch of dry grip. At \$20 retail, this delivers plenty of character.

La Valentina Montepulciano d’Abruzzo “Spelt” *(*)**

Dense black red. Fresh nose, held back with very good underlying black fruit. Marries flesh and fresh acidity. Clean and positive.

Tasting Notes of Roger C. Bohmrich, MW

Villa Medoro Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Colline Teramane Adrano 2008 ****

Dense black red with purple. Warm, subtly scented ripe black plum, black cherry. This has good volume and expression. Long, fruit-dominated finale.

Valle Reale Montepulciano d'Abruzzo "San Calisto" 2008 **(*)**

Opaque black purple. Highly concentrated, somewhat reserved black fruit nose. Beautiful, layered, very long and perfumed. A very impressive, seductive wine with superb fruit.

Cottanera Etna Rosso 2007 **(*)**

Pale dark red. Expressive earthy, mineral, tarry nose. Not at all dense but concentrated and highly aromatic. Complex dark fruit and soil highlights. Very firm acid backbone provides terrific cut and tension. Reminiscent of a fine Gattinara or Barbaresco in its overall profile.

Colpetrone Montefalco Sagrantino 2007 **(*)**

Dense dark red-garnet. Highly concentrated but reserved with a suggestion of small red fruits and berries. Gorgeous and concentrated on the palate. Commands attention. Muscular, structured and amazingly long. Intense inflections of fruit and wood. This is an assertive wine of great promise.

Coppo Barbera d'Asti "Pomorosso" 2008 **+**

Moderately dense dark red with purple. Lifted, sweet dark berries with oak complement. Has polish, sweet fruit and elegance. Fresh finale with fine acidity. Lovely, fragrant finish.

Braida Barbera d'Asti Bricco dell'Uccellone 2009 ****

Moderately dense very dark red with purple rim. Very clean, very fresh aroma marked by subtle red fruits. Ripe, sweet fruit in the mouth. Excellent intensity and persistence. Well-defined by elevated acidity and ripe tannins.

Olim Bauda Barbera d'Asti Superiore "Nizza" 2008 *****

Dense very dark purple red. Ripe, fresh, highly concentrated nose with remarkable intensity for Barbera. On the palate, crushed small red and wild fruits. Explosive with fabulous intensity and volume. Great tension and definition. This is a very high achievement for Barbera.

Cantina del Pino Barbaresco "Ovello" 2007 **(*)**

Pale red brick. Scented dark red and wild fruits with faint menthol accent. Lovely polish from attack to finish. Restrained, youthful. Fresh, clean, elegant frame. Very fine.

Vietti Barolo Villero Riserva 2004 **(*)**

Moderately dense dark brick. Peppery, spicy, high-toned nose with faint sweet red fruits. Highly complex, seductively polished and showing great presence on the palate. Underlying sweet fruit. Well-structured, precisely calibrated and fresh. Very high class.

Vigna Rionda-Massolino Barolo Vigna Rionda Riserva 2005 **(*)**

Moderately dense dark red with browning rim. Very pure and reserved. Hinting at complexity. Very fresh, high-toned, intense aromatics in the mouth. Fine and subtle with an elegant integrated frame. This needs a good decade of ageing to loosen it up.

Elvio Cogno Barolo "Ravera" 2007 **(*)**

Pale dark red-brick. Profound, all in reserve to the nose. Intense dark fruits hidden away along with a mentholated note. Fabulous presence on the palate. Great volume of flavor without any heaviness or austerity. Incredibly long, budding complexity, but very young with a precise frame. Superb wine with a long life ahead.

Travaglini Gattinara Riserva 2006 *(*)**

Moderately dense dark brick red. Focused, lifted aromatics emphasizing mature fruit and oak. Very good concentration, layered and also fresh. Attractive texture at center. Woody but not overdone. Firm, well-defined.

Piaggia Carmignano Riserva 2008 **(+)**

Dense dark red. Concentrated, fresh sour cherry and well-integrated oak. Ideal maturity with sweet fruit undertone. Fleshy and textured, then balanced by fine acidity and ripe tannins. An outstanding example of this denomination.

Marchese Antinori Tignanello 2008 **(?)**

Moderately dense very dark red. Closed to the nose with hidden concentration and strength. Fresh and youthful. Skillful marriage of fruit and oak. Very good aromatic intensity in the finish. Very firm, fresh, dry ending. This wine is compact and tightly wound.

Tenuta Vitanza Brunello di Montalcino Tradizione 2004 *(*)**

Moderately dense dark red-brick. Understated, conservative nose. Polished and balanced with a sweet undertone. Finishes with a fine spinal column. Not very expressive at this stage.

Biondi Santi Tenuta Il Greppo Brunello di Montalcino 2006 **(+)**

Moderately dense red-brick. Subtle, creamy aroma revealing red fruits and spice. Silky, elegant palate with a great deal in reserve. Well-structured: elevated acidity and somewhat dry tannins. This is a very young wine with a long life ahead.

AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA

Tenuta Sant' Antonio "Campo dei Gigli" 2007 **(*)**

Dense dark red with blackish tone. Warm, very rich but not heady with complex dark fruit and well-integrated oak. Full, very good volume with real depth and authority. Suggestion of sweetness with high, sinewy acidity. Finishes with smoky and coffee notes. Impressive, mouth-filling modern interpretation. Will keep well.

Musella Riserva 2007 **(*)**

Nearly dense dark red. Penetrating, narrowly focused aroma exhibiting crushed small red fruit and dried cherries. Intense and concentration on the palate. Tightly wound and held in by high acidity and firm tannin. Complex aromatics in the aftertaste.

Trabucchi d'Ilasi 2006 **(*)**

Nearly dense very dark red with brick rim. Warm, lifted dried red cherry and spice nose. Faint vegetal note. In the mouth, fabulous lift and expression from the outset. Subtly sweet but refreshed by pronounced edge of acidity and modest tannic grip. Long, warm finish leaving a vegetal accent. Plenty of character.

Lorenzo Begali Classico "Monte Ca' Bianca" 2006 *****

Dense blackish red. Deep, powerful, exciting nose revealing dark fruit with cocoa and menthol highlights. Extraordinary on the palate. Multidimensional, offering dried black cherries, pepper and roasted notes. Super-concentrated. Very powerful structure. This is a monumental Amarone which is a bit overwhelming at this stage.

Brigaldara "Case Vecie" 2007 ****

Moderately dense dark red. Peppery and dusty at first, then super-rich dark fruits. Penetrating aroma. In the mouth, faintly sweet with intense aromatics at its center, then fades a little. Not dense but highly concentrated. Dry finale. Just a bit angular, at least right now.