

Wine Spectator & Vinitaly present

FINEST ITALIAN WINES, 100 GREAT PRODUCERS

OperaWine reveals additional names of Italian Great Wine Producers

Verona, 22nd December 2011 – Christmas is just a few days away so that OperaWine (www.operawine.it) is thrilled to announce the list of the “**Finest Italian Wines: 100 Great Producers**”. The list represents the excellence and diversity of all regions from the Italian peninsula and will be a showcase when the grand tasting on 24th of March will take place in Verona.

The selection of winemakers for the official opening event to Vinitaly 2012 also marks a special occasion for the American lifestyle magazine **Wine Spectator** as “*we hope the event will serve as a showcase to demonstrate the breadth and quality of the Italian wine industry today,*” said **Thomas Mathews**, Executive Editor, Wine Spectator. “*We are pleased by the enthusiastic response to this inaugural tasting with Vinitaly, from both Italian wineries and the general public. Though we began the process with a goal of including 100 great Italian producers, we recognized from the beginning that many more producers merited inclusion than we would be able to invite. As it turns out, interest has been so great, and the number of wineries declining our*



Bruce Sanderson, Thomas Mathews & Stevie Kim

invitation so small, that there will be more than 100 wineries attending the event. While logistical constraints prevent us from continuing to expand, we believe our attendees will welcome these "bonus" wines to the tasting", emphasising that wine aficionados will have a supplementary wine to sample.

Stevie Kim, General Coordinator of Vinitaly International and the new project OperaWine added, *"We are looking forward to best promote Italian wines to the international market and bring home the Vinitaly Wine Affair after travelling the globe. From Verona to Moscow onwards to Washington, New York and Hong Kong (VinitalyTour 2011) back to Verona. Here we seek to make people fall in love with Italian wines all over again."*

For wine lovers that cannot wait to learn more about the producers, www.operawine.it features a series of small interviews and more materials on how Italian wines captivates the passion of people to fall in love with them.

Moreover, more detailed information on some of the prominent brands featured in **"Finest Italian Wines: 100 Great Producers"** can be found in the OperaWine communication releases. Last weeks' two new additions **Casanova di Neri** and **Biondi-Santi** from Montalcino in the heart of Tuscany, were described in: **"OperaWine meets the tenors of Tuscan wines: Biondi-Santi, Casanova di Neri, Antinori and Frescobaldi"**. The release focused on Tuscany, the region with the perhaps greatest concentration of renowned wine makers from Italy.

OperaWine wishes you a Merry Christmas with the, from Wine Spectator carefully chosen great Italian wine makers. The list below being a testimony to the extraordinary diversity of scents, flavours, grape varieties that ultimately highlight the excellence of Italian wine tradition.

Abbazia di Novacella

Aldo Conterno

Allegrini

Altesino

Antinori

Argentiera

Argiolas

Arnaldo Caprai

Avignonesi

Barone Ricasoli

Bellavista

Bertani

Biondi Santi

Bisol

Braida di Giacomo Bologna

Bruno Giacosa

Ca' del Bosco

Cantina Terlano

Carpenè Malvolti

Carpineto

Casa Vinicola Zonin

Casale del Giglio

Casanova di Neri

Castellare di Castellina

Castello Banfi

Castello di Ama

Castello di Volpaia

Castelluccio

Ceretto

Ciccio Zaccagnini

Col d'Orcia

Cusumano

Damilano

di Majo Norante

Donnafugata

Drei Donà

Duca di Salaparuta

Ercole Velenosi

Falesco

Fattoria del Cerro

Fattoria di Felsina

Fattoria Le Pupille

Fattoria Zerbina

Ferrari F.lli Lunelli

Feudi di San Gregorio

Fonterutoli

Fontodi

Gaja

Galardi	Masi	Planeta	Tenuta San Guido
Gancia	Mastroberardino	Prunotto	Tenuta San Leonardo
Giuseppe Mascarello & Figlio	Mastrojanni	Renato Ratti	Tenuta Sette Ponti
Hofstatter	Mezzacorona	Roberto Anselmi	Tenute Sella & Mosca
Leonildo Pieropan	Michele Chiarlo	Rocca delle Macie	Terre Bianche
Les Crêtes	Mionetto	San Felice	Terredora di Paolo
Librandi	Mirafiore	Santa Margherita	Testamatta - Bibi Graetz
Livio Felluga	Montevetrano	Silvio Nardi	Tommasi
Luciano Sandrone	Nino Negri	Siro Pacenti	Tormaresca
Lunae Bosoni	Nozzole - Folonari	Suavia	Umani Ronchi
Lungarotti	Paolo Scavino	Tasca d'Almerita	Valdicava
Marchesi de' Frescobaldi	Pecchenino	Tedeschi	Vietti
Marco Felluga	Petrolo	Tenuta dell'Ornellaia	Zenato
Masciarelli	Pio Cesare	Tenuta di Biserno	

About:

"OperaWine" (www.operawine.it) is an innovative project, designed to cultivate knowledge on the excellence and diversity of the finest Italian wines and simultaneously give wine lovers the chance to experience unique, historical and cultural sites within the Italian peninsula. **OperaWine** is discovering the traditions, identity and heritage of the food and art in Italy, whilst falling in love with Italian wines. Exclusive initiatives related to Italian wine, food and culture is to encourage international operators, journalists, sommeliers, wine educators, and high profile wine aficionados alike to explore the fascinating history and context of Italian wine production.

Wine Spectator is the world's leading authority on wine that reaches more than 3 million readers worldwide, the brand also encompasses a web

portal, mobile platforms, and a series of signature events. It examines the world of wine from the vineyard to the table, exploring wine's role in contemporary culture and delivering expert reviews of more than 15,000 wines each year. Wine Spectator is solely responsible for the choice of producers at the event.

Vinitaly is the largest wine fair in the world with over 4,500 producers and 150,000+ visitors (including 45,000 from foreign countries). The event is held every year in Verona, Italy (46th edition: Verona 25-28 March 2012).

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