

MACCH

WINE COLLECTIVE

selected by Jacqueline Pirolo

MACCH

IALINA

IALINA

APRIL 2021

In 2019, Jacqueline Pirolo was invited by the wine importer Della Terra on a trip to Italy visiting two wineries per day for thirteen days. This month we enjoy some of Jacqueline's favorite wines, from producers who welcomed her in as family.

Just as our dinner menu at Macchialina would not be as alluring without the people who bring high quality ingredients to our door; our wine list would not be as compelling without importers like Della Terra seeking out the vineyards run by people choosing socially responsible and environmentally sound winegrowing practices.

Della Terra, meaning "of the earth," imports wine from a select group of families in Italy who put the integrity of their product and their impact on the earth first. That's why when choosing wine to purchase, a good importer can be an excellent compass for a consumer to use. A good importer will point you towards the most interesting wines on the market.

Remember there is always more! Shoot me an email if you'd like to purchase another bottle (or case) of something in your pack that you loved.

jacqueline@macchialina.com. Thank you!
#MacchInMyGlass

WINE 101

Chianti is a place, not a grape.

KITCHEN NOTE

Chef Mike Pirolo's Eggplant Caponata

Traditional Sicilian fried eggplant, tossed with spicy anchovy, caper, oregano, tomato sauce. Eat right out of the jar with good bread or crackers, as a spread on a sandwich, or tossed in a pasta as a sauce.

There are many ways to make a Caponata, but in the words of Chef Mike Pirolo, "Zucchini, take a time out. We're going straight eggplant here."

#MacchAtMyHouse

MACCH
ALINA

SANT' ANTONIO
'NANFRE' 2018

Producer: Tenuta Sant' Antonio
Name: Nanfre
Variety: 70% Corvina, 30% Rondinella
Vintage: 2018
Location: Valpolicella
Follow: @tenutasantantonio

The four Castagnedi brothers have combined their family's longtime dreams with vision to create wine with respect to the vineyard's natural equilibrium. Valpolicella is in the foothills of the Italian/Austrian Alps, near Lake Garda, outside of Verona, and is the most famous red wine district in northeastern Italy's Veneto wine region. The person who used to own the vineyard was named Gianfranco, or "Gianfre" for short, or "Nanfre" to his friends, which is how the wine got its name. This wine maintains lower alcohol levels, an incredible freshness, and more vibrant fruit, and floral nuances, while rejecting the Superiore label, using no dried grapes, no oak, and a completely organic process. This wine is young and holds surprises in each sip.

Tip: Serve chilled!!

MACCH
ALINA

POLIZIANO
VINO NOBILE DI MONTEPULCIANO 2017

Producer: Azienda Agricola Poliziano
Name: Vino Nobile di Montepulciano
Variety: 85% Sangiovese; 15% Colorino, Cannonaiolo & Merlot
Vintage: 2017
Location: Montepulciano, Tuscany, Italy
Follow: @polizianowinery

Founded in 1961 by Dino Carletti, the Poliziano estate focuses on achieving perfection with as little intervention as possible. Carletti studies agronomy, the science of soil management and crop production, because he believes that great wines originate in the vineyard.

Vino Nobile di Montepulciano is the principal wine of Poliziano, and through the centuries, Vino Nobile has been hailed as "the wine of kings." The great wines of Vino Nobile di Montepulciano can be some of the better examples of Sangiovese in the world. In Tuscany, Sangiovese is the sole grape variety permitted in the prestigious Brunello di Montalcino DOCG and provides the backbone to Vino Nobile di Montepulciano and the popular wines of Chianti.

Today, Poliziano produces more than 83,000 cases from about 400 organically farmed acres in Montepulciano. Most of it is Sangiovese.

MACCH
ALINA
MARCHESI DI GRESY
'MONTE ARIBALDO' DOLCETTO D'ALBA

Producer: Tenute Cisa Asinari Marchesi di Gresy
Name: Aribaldo Dolcetto d'Alba
Variety: 100% Dolcetto
Vintage: 2018
Location: Piemonte, Italy
Follow: @marchesidigresy

The di Gresy family's four estates boast the greatest Piemontese wines. The father/daughter team have been friends and fans of Macchialina since they first visited Miami years ago; and were ecstatic to reciprocate the hospitality when Jackie visited with Dalla Terra. She was able to learn first-hand about the Nebbiolo and Dolcetto grapes indigenous to the area that the di Gresy family has preserved over the years.

The Monte Aribaldo estate, where the Dolcetto grape grows, dates back to 1650 and was the first property the family acquired. Today, the Dolcetto d'Alba designation is considered the most notable, because of the quality care taken with the grapes. This vineyard rises between Treiso and Barbaresco and overlooks the valley of Martinenga where the di Gresy family grows several different variations of Nebbiolo grapes. This dry red expresses their passion, driven by respect for tradition, nature and varietal.

MACCH
ALINA
INAMA
SOAVE CLASSICO 2019

Producer: Azienda Agricola Inama
Name: Vin Soave
Variety: 100% Garganega
Vintage: 2019
Location: Soave, Veneto, Italy
Follow: @inama_wine

This vineyard is at the top of a mountain, in a place so picturesque it is overwhelming. During the '60s Giuseppe Inama, the estate's founder, began to purchase small plots of vineyards there. The Inama family believes that a wine's caliber depends upon the quality of the ecosystem, with the soil being paramount. This respect for the soil comes from the history of their vines. Garganega grapes are one the oldest varieties in Italy.

It's in the heart of the Soave Classico designation and in this hilly area vineyards were planted during Roman times. When Jackie visited with Della Terra, the charter bus they were on couldn't climb the hill up to the winery. They walked up the gravel road, volcanic soil under their feet, and vines all around to a lone table at the top of the hill for an unforgettable luncheon. The Garganega grape, when cared for so meticulously, produces fruit that makes an aromatic and floral wine, with mineral characteristics that express the land's true essence - this is Vin Soave.

MACCH
ALINA

FATTORIA SELVAPIANA
CHIANTI RUFINA 2018

Producer: Fattoria Selvapiana
Name: Chianti Rufina
Variety: 95% Sangiovese, 5% Canaiolo, Col-
orino, & Malvasia Nera
Vintage: 2018
Location: Chianti, Tuscany, Italy
Follow: @selvapianafattoria

The Chianti Rufina is the pillar of Fattoria Selvapiana's production. It is a wine we all know as Chianti, however the grapes are 95% Sangiovese and 5% other varieties grown in Chianti as well. It is an excellent example of the way wines are named. Chianti is not a grape, but a place. During the Renaissance, a noble Florentine family constructed the Selvapiana residence in the hills close to the Sieve River, just up the Arno, where the higher elevation keeps it cooler and cleaner than in Florence.

Today, that fresh air serves to help create the finesse and crispness that Rufina - the smallest subzone of Chianti - is known for. Chianti Rufina was one of the areas defined in what is known as the world's earliest denomination protection law, and celebrated its 300th anniversary in 2016. Cheers to the history of Chianti and the delicious acidity of the Sangiovese grapes!

MACCH
ALINA

ALOIS LAGEDER
'HABERLE' PINOT BIANCO 2018

Producer: Alois Lageder
Name: Haberle
Variety: Pinot Bianco
Vintage: 2018
Location: Alto Adige, Italy
Follow: @alois.lageder

At the most northern point of Italian wine-making, Alois Lageder IV is carrying a proud tradition of quality into the fifth generation. Their family's roots reach back to 1823, but biodynamic agriculture has been applied at their estates since the 1970s. To Alois, his sister, and her husband, biodynamics means more than just a non-chemical approach.

"We promote biodiversity by sowing ground cover plants and planting shrubs, introducing animals into the vineyards and fertilizing the soil with compost. All these measures lead to improved soil quality and vine fertility. A cultural landscape, too, is a closed system involving the soil, plants and nature. Our objective as wine growers is to maintain and develop this complex ecosystem."