

News



All the beauty of wine, in the photo

People, places, actions, that tell the story of the vineyard, the vine, the bunch: these are the subjects of the shots competing for the "Errazuriz Wine Photographer of the Year" 2020, the most important wine photo contest in the world, which yesterday revealed its winners. In the "People" category, David Weimann, with "Meike and Dorte Nakel", took first place, while the Italian Marina Spironetti, with "Time to meditate" (in the photo), came third; in the "Places" category, it was an exceptional photographer who got the upper hand: the wine signature of "Forbes" Thomas Hyland; in the "Produce" category, at the top Patrick Desgraupescon "Clos Saint Patrice Sample".

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SMS

The "phase 2" of Terra Moretti

In Italy, which is preparing to restart, with the "Phase 2" launched just last night by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, companies have as a first necessity to make their workplaces and their employees safe. First of all, following the "Protocol for combating and containing the spread of the Covid-19 virus", but there are those who are ready to do something more. Like the Terra Moretti Holding, the group led by Vittorio Moretti (whose head is Terra Moretti Vino) which, a few days ago, took a further step, a case more unique than rare in the wine business in the Belpaese, activating a health protocol to carry out chromatographic tests on all its employees carried out on capillary blood, validated and authorized, to measure the antibodies (immunoglobulins) IgM and IgG that are produced in case of Covid-19 infection.

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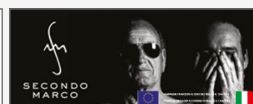


Report

Brunello requests and proposals

The declaration of a state of natural disaster for the whole of Tuscany, with access to the National Solidarity Fund and the activation of Mediocredito Toscano to guarantee the Government's measures regarding the extension of loans and debts: the requests of the Consorzio del Brunello di Montalcino to the Regione Toscana. "We are convinced - says the President of the Consorzio Fabrizio Bindocci - that this is not a structural crisis, but an economic difficulty, to be contrasted, together with an adequate credit endowment, with a strong reaction based on promotion and marketing activities".

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First Page

Wine and viticulture are facing challenges of post-coronavirus changes. The OIV vision

Even though some signs suggest that the end of the COVID-19 emergency is not too distant, at least in Italy, the global picture leaves no room for optimism. Not even for wine. Losses in Horeca, the hotel and restaurant industry, will be unsustainable for many, as they have not been offset by growth in domestic and online consumption, and it will take years to recover. And, that is only provided that truly extraordinary resources are put in place, such as those implemented after World War II. For the future, instead, it will be necessary to rethink our relationship with the environment, as well as with the market, for the wine supply chain, from the vineyard to the shelf. This is the meaning of the message from Pau Roca, secretary general of the OIV (International Organization of Vine and Wine), who presented the crucial moment of the world wine scenario yesterday in Paris, in a video conference (which WineNews also reported yesterday). "We are experiencing a huge change for the pandemic, which will change the lives of farmers and winemakers in many ways, as well as those who work in the grape and wine trade". Which will also be in the vineyard and winery work, although in the southern hemisphere, which has been in full harvest, the Covid emergency does not seem to have had much impact. The CEEV estimated that closing this channel in Europe could lead to 35% drop in sales volumes, and a loss of over 50% in value. And the growth in large-scale distribution, where, moreover, the offer is much more price-oriented and limited to many less players, compared to the catering sector, and also online, is not enough to compensate. "The forecast is for a drop in overall consumption, and a reduction in average prices, and therefore in sales margins and turnover. And ultimately profitability for wineries, especially for those that are more linked to traditional channels, and that are outside the supermarket network. This - continues Roca - will have a direct impact on farmers and wine and grape producers. The "lockdown" will have a very strong impact, probably irreversible, unless really extraordinary resources for reconstruction are put in place by governments. The scenario is comparable to that of the second post-war period".

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Focus

Monica Larner: wine, the world crisis, the future of wine critics

It's a very difficult time in our lives: these days forced at home have given us anxiety and insecurity, but we need hope. Even in the world of wine, waiting for production to return to normal or almost normal, as well as the market, its tale, and, above all, that we return to drink it together in its places of consumption. "When the virus hit us", Monica Larner, correspondent from Italy for The Wine Advocate, and one of the most authoritative voices of the world's wine critics, points out to WineNews, "it was as if time had stopped, and with it our normality and our world. But there is no better place to pass quarantine than in the vineyard. Those of us who work in the world of wine have extra edge and we are very lucky. The Coronavirus has brought us sadness and pain, but also an opportunity to improve ourselves". A rediscovered respect for nature, food, wine and their production, which has put agriculture and "we are what we eat" back at the centre. "Nature repairs what it destroys, wrote the writer George Eliot - recalls the critics - but one thing is clear: we need to review our distribution channels, direct sales, large-scale distribution, catering, almost all guilty of relying on a single system and not on others, while in the future we will have to balance".

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Wine & Food

The winemakers' letter

If some people can breathe a little through gdo and e-commerce, most closed restaurants weigh more. Not to mention that many people boast credits on wine sold long before the coronavirus emergency broke out. Therefore, under the motto of #ilvinononsiferma, more than 200 winemakers from all over Italy (more than 320 in a few hours) have put their proposals on paper in an open letter, in which, aware of the difficulties of the period, they are asked to pay immediately the invoices issued until the end of 2019, stating strongly that they are not willing to accept undue pressure from those who, unfortunately, would like to take advantage of the crisis.

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For the record

Soldera leads Italy on the Liv-ex

Even in a difficult context, the labels of the Belpaese score another record week (17-23 April), in which, as Liv-ex reveals, the share of Italian fine wines traded on the secondary market reached 27.7%, behind only Bordeaux, at 52.7%. Much of the credit is to be attributed to the excellent performance of Sangiovese 2015 by Soldera, one of the symbolic wines of Montalcino and Tuscan wine in the world, the second most traded label, and a price of £4,400 a case.

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