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**OperaWine at Vinitaly 2016 puts Music in a Bottle**

Music and Wine are the two main protagonists for OperaWine 2016. This year’s list of the 100 Top Italian Wines includes “Sister Moon,” an IGT Toscano produced at Trudie Styler and Sting’s 16th century estate “Tenuta il Palagio”.

This biodynamic wine, a blend of Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, was orchestrated by Trudie Styler, Sting, Paolo Caciorgna as the winemaker, the late Alan York and Daniel O’Donnell. Sister Moon attributes its name to the song of the same name, written by Sting in the mid 80’s and included in the Album “Nothing Like the Sun,” the second solo studio album of the English singer-songwriter.

“We are so honored that Il Palagio’s Sister Moon 2011, the flagship IGT Toscano Rosso from our Tuscan estate, has been selected by Wine Spectator as one of the top 100 Italian wines and so flattered to be in the company of such great Italian wineries at OperaWine 2016. Sister Moon is a wine that has consistently expressed the best qualities of Il Palagio’s terroir and encourages us to continue striving to produce the highest quality wines. With the brilliant guidance of our winemakers, the late Alan York, Paolo Caciorgna and Daniel O’Donnell, and our estate manager Paolo Rossi, this 15-year endeavor has been more rewarding than we could ever have imagined. We are truly thrilled and grateful for this recognition” responded Trudie Styler and Sting to being part of this year’s OperaWine.

Interestingly, Alan York was a leading consultant for biodynamic viticulture for Il Palagio and President of the Biodynamic Farming and Gardening Association of North America for four years. The recognition of this biodynamic IGT Toscano in OperaWine 2016 coincides with the launch of the new award of Vinitaly, “FreeWine, Wine without walls”. This new award will recognize wines that have some form of organic farming, with no additives, including the controversial “added sulfites”.

Among all the regions that are included on the list of the 100 Top Italian Wines, it is Tuscany that is the most representative region this year, comprising 30 % of the wines that are on the list, followed by Piedmont with 15%. Italy is the number one wine producer in the world in terms of volume and this would not be possible if all the protagonists in the realm of Italian wines were not engaged in the production of quality wines and events like OperaWine, which for the fifth year celebrates the best of Italian wines.

OperaWine 2016 represents all Italian wine regions and brings more than 60 Italian native grape varieties that this year represent the 100 Top Italian Wines.

OperaWine is a partnership between Vinitaly and Wine Spectator, the world's leading wine publication, now in its fifth edition. Wine Spectator is solely responsible for the selection of wineries to participate in OperaWine. For more details, check our website: <http://www.operawine.it/wineregions2016>

**OperaWine 2016, 100 Top Italian Wines**

**ABRUZZI**

Masciarelli Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Villa Gemma 2008

Binomio Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2010

**BASILICATA**

d'Angelo Aglianico del Vulture 2012

Terre degli Svevi Aglianico del Vulture Re Manfredi 1998

**CALABRIA**

Librandi Val di Neto Gravello 2012

Odoardi Calabria GB 2013

Vincenzo Ippolito Cirò Ripe del Falco Riserva 2001

**CAMPANIA**

Fattoria Galardi Roccamonfina Terra di Lavoro 2011

Feudi di San Gregorio Irpinia Serpico 1999

Mastroberardino Taurasi Radici Riserva 2006

Terredora di Paolo Fiano di Avellino CampoRe 2011

**EMILIA-ROMAGNA**

Drei Donà Sangiovese di Romagna Superiore Pruno Riserva 2008

Lini Oreste & Figli Vino Spumante Metodo Classico In Correggio 910 Rosso 2004

Medici Ermete Lambrusco Concerto (20th Anniversary Limited Edition red label) 2013

**FRIULI/VENEZIA-GIULIA**

Jermann Venezia-Giulia Dreams 2012

Livio Felluga Colli Orientali del Friuli Terre Alte 2008

Marco Felluga Collio Col Disôre 2003

La Tunella Friulano Friuli Colli Orientali Col Livius 2011

**LAZIO**

Falesco Lazio Montiano 2011

**LIGURIA**

Cantine Lunae Bosoni Vermentino Colli di Luni-Liguria Black Label 2014

Terre Bianche Rossese di Dolceacqua Bricco Arcagna 2012

**LOMBARDY**

Bellavista Extra Brut Franciacorta Gran Cuvée Pas Operé 2005

Ca' del Bosco Franciacorta Cuvée Annamaria Clementi Riserva 2005

Nino Negri Valtellina Sfursat 5 Stelle 2005

**MARCHE**

Umani Ronchi Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico Superiore Casal di Serra Vecchie Vigne 2012

**MOLISE**

di Majo Norante Molise Don Luigi Riserva 2012

**NORTHEAST**

Bellenda Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore S.C. 1931 2006

Desiderio Bisol & Figli Dry Valdobbiadene Superiore di Cartizze 2014

**PIEDMONT**

Aldo Conterno Barolo Romirasco 2005

Braida di Giacomo Bologna Barbera d'Asti Bricco dell'Uccellone 2010

Cavallotto Barolo Bricco Boschis Vigna San Giuseppe Riserva 2008

Ceretto Barolo Bricco Rocche 2005

Damilano Barolo Cannubi 2011

Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravera 2006

Falletto di Bruno Giacosa Barolo Le Rocche del Falletto Riserva 2007

Gaja Langhe Sperss 2011

Giuseppe Mascarello & Figlio Barolo Monprivato 2001

Luciano Sandrone Barolo Le Vigne 2006

Massolino Barolo Vigna Rionda Riserva 2005

Mirafiore Barolo Lazzarito 2008

Paolo Scavino Barolo Bric dël Fiasc 2006

Renato Ratti Barolo Rocche 2004

Vietti Barolo Ravera 2011

**PUGLIA**

Gianfranco Fino Primitivo di Manduria Es 2012

Masseria Li Veli Aleatico Salento Passito 2008

Tormaresca Aglianico Castel del Monte Bocca di Lupo 2011

Schola Sarmenti Nardò Nerìo Riserva 2012

**SARDINIA**

Agricola Punica Isola dei Nuraghi Barrua 2012

Argiolas Isola dei Nuraghi Turriga 2010

Dettori Romangia Red 2011

**SICILY**

Cusumano Sicilia Sàgana Tenuta San Giacomo 2011

Donnafugata Passito di Pantelleria Ben Ryé 2010

Passopisciaro Terre Siciliane Contrada R 2012

Planeta Noto Santa Cecilia 2011

Tasca d’Almerita Nerello Mascalese Sicilia Il Tascante 2012

**TRENTINO/ALTO ADIGE**

Cantina Terlano Sauvignon Alto Adige Terlano Quarz 2013

Elena Walch Alto Adige Beyond the Clouds 2013

Ferrari Extra Brut Trento Riserva Lunelli 2006

J. Hofstätter Gewürztraminer Alto Adige Kolbenhof 2013

**TUSCANY**

Altesino Brunello di Montalcino Montosoli 2010

Antinori Chianti Classico Badia a Passignano Riserva 2007

Avignonesi Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Grandi Annate 2011

Barone Ricasoli Chianti Classico Castello di Brolio 2006

Bibi Graetz (Testamatta) Toscana Colore 2008

Biondi-Santi Brunello di Montalcino Tenuta Greppo 2008

Carpineto Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva 2007

Casanova di Neri Brunello di Montalcino Cerretalto 2008

Castellare di Castellina Toscana I Sodi di San Niccolò 2011

Castello Banfi Brunello di Montalcino Poggio alle Mura Riserva 2008

Castello d'Albola Chianti Classico Riserva 2010

Castello di Ama Toscana L'Apparita 2008

Castello di Volpaia Chianti Classico Riserva 2012

Fattoria di Fèlsina Toscana Fontalloro 2011

Fontodi Colli della Toscana Centrale Flaccianello 2007

Il Poggione Brunello di Montalcino 2007

Le Macchiole Toscana Paleo Red 2008

Marchesi de' Frescobaldi Chianti Rufina Nipozzano Vecchie Viti Riserva 2012

Mastrojanni Brunello di Montalcino Vigna Loreto 2007

Castello di Fonterutoli Toscana Siepi 2006

Nozzole (Folonari - Cabreo) Toscana Il Pareto 2010

Petrolo Val d'Arno di Sopra Bòggina 2012

San Felice Toscana Vigorello 2011

Siro Pacenti Brunello di Montalcino 2007

Tenuta dell'Ornellaia Bolgheri Superiore Ornellaia 2002

Tenuta San Guido Bolgheri-Sassicaia Sassicaia 2012

Tenuta Sette Ponti Toscana Oreno 2012

Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino Madonna del Piano Riserva 2006

Il Palagio Toscana Sister Moon 2011

**UMBRIA**

Arnaldo Caprai Montefalco Sagrantino 25 Anni 2010

Lungarotti Torgiano Rubesco Vigna Monticchio Riserva 1977

Tabarrini Montefalco Sagrantino Campo alla Cerqua 2010

**VALLE D'AOSTA**

Anselmet Chardonnay Valle d’Aosta Élevé en Fût de Chêne 2013

**VENETO**

Allegrini Amarone della Valpolicella Classico 2010

Bertani Amarone della Valpolicella Classico 1964

Cesari Amarone della Valpolicella Bosan 2000

Leonildo Pieropan Soave Classico La Rocca 2011

Masi Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Mazzano 2007

Prà Soave Classico Monte Grande 2011

Suavia Soave Classico Monte Carbonare 2013

Tedeschi Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Capitel Monte Olmi 2007

Tommasi Amarone della Valpolicella Classico 2008

Zenato Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Sergio Zenato Riserva 2008

**About:**

Veronafiere is the leading organizer of trade shows in Italy including Vinitaly (www.vinitaly.com), the largest wine and spirits fair in the world. During its 49th edition Vinitaly counted some 4.000 exhibitors on a 100.000 square meter area and 150.000 visitors including more than 2.600 journalists from 46 different countries. The next edition of the fair will take place on 10 - 13 April 2016.

The premier event to Vinitaly, OperaWine (www.vinitalyinternational.com) “Finest Italian Wines: 100 Great Producers,” will unite international wine professionals on April 9th in the heart of Verona, offering them the unique opportunity to discover and taste the wines of the 100 Best Italian Producers, as selected by Wine Spectator. Since 1998 Vinitaly International travels to several countries such as Russia, China, USA and Hong Kong thanks to its strategic arm abroad, Vinitaly International. In February 2014 Vinitaly International launched an educational project, the Vinitaly International Academy (VIA) with the aim of divulging and broadcasting the excellence and diversity of Italian wine around the globe. VIA has now also created its very first Certification Course with the aim of creating new Ambassadors of Italian Wine in the World.

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