

PERBACCO WINE CLUB

8th SHIPMENT: FALL 2021

Theme of the Shipment: "ITALIAN ORGANIC & BIODYNAMIC WINES"

These wines have been selected by Francesco, we firmly believe that this selection represents the best we can offer in this price range. We are proud to present each one of these wines and we hope you will enjoy them till the last drop. Each bottle will be paired with an iconic song that reflects the personality of the wine.

THE MANIFESTO

'Organic & Biodynamic', who are they → Wine makers (actually, it's better call them Farmers) whose goal is to make authentic wines through more sustainable and eco-conscious farming practices.

Characteristics → Terroir driven, eclectic, enthusiastic, passionate, sometimes even naïve and definitely stubborn, Organic and Biodynamic farmers pay attention to the quality of their wines, while protecting both Mother Nature and the final consumers from harmful chemical elements, such as synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and high presence of sulphites. Often smaller wineries are organic in Italy but many big producers are now converting to more sustainable and more authentic farming practices, in which the imprinting of the wine maker is given with the hard labor in the vineyard and not by 'shortcuts' in the cellar: consider them as athletes that refuse the use of steroids and train hard with passion to achieve their goals.

Their wines → Their wines are floral and vibrant, extremely pure, unfiltered and sincere: in one word, authentic. 30 years ago, when the dispute between them and the so-called 'conventionalists', they were marked by their 'haters' as 'vinegary, extreme and not long-lived': now, in a world in which technology and knowledge have replaced chemistry in farming and in the cellar, their wines are technically flawless and longevous, resulting often more intense, complex and for sure, non-artificial compared to conventional wines.

Organic & Biodynamic → Organic and Biodynamic are very similar; both are grown without chemicals and GMOs. ... The main difference between the two approaches is that Biodynamic farming uses different principles that add vitality to the plant, soil and/or livestock, whereas traditional farming typically deteriorates the soil. Biodynamic agriculture is based on the work of Rudolf Steiner (1861–1925), who gave Agriculture Course in 1924, predating most of the organic movement. It includes ecological principles, emphasizing spiritual (moon calendar) and mystical perspectives (such as burying home-grown manure inside of a bull's horn in the soil). Biodynamics aims at the ecological self-sufficiency of farms as cohesive, interconnected living systems. Some grape growers who have adopted biodynamic methods claim to have achieved improvements in the health of their vineyards, specifically in the areas of biodiversity, soil fertility, crop nutrition, and pest, weed, and disease management. The point with biodynamic farming is "you get what you get", what nature and the hard labour give you. Some of its aspects can be considered a bit silly but the spiritual and mystical perspectives are also a charming part of it.

Francesco's considerations → It is exciting to see the marvelous results reached by this movement in the last decade; after a difficult start in the 1990s, during which not all the wines were enjoyable or technically impeccable, the world of Organic wines has lived an incredible growth due to more advanced technologies and intense studies on new farming and wine making techniques. While I truly believe in a more conscious approach to farming, I also believe that the great quality and uniqueness of organic & biodynamic wines are now evident, in a beautiful scenario in which a high-quality wine, is made with sustainability and respect for the final consumer and, most importantly, for our planet. To sum up the difference between Conventional and Organic/Biodynamic approach to farming, I'd compare the first one to a well-built highway that takes you on a faster and more safe journey, while the second one is a country road that makes you drive a bit slower, but shows you beautiful landscapes and colors on the way: **at the end, isn't the journey more important than the destination?**

MEMBERSHIP PLAN: SILVER

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FRANCESCO'S DESCRIPTIONS:

Loacker Corte Pavone Brunello di Montalcino Docg 2015 Song: **Lean on Me by Bill Withers**. When a mogul of the chocolate industry quits his family's worldwide popular enterprise because he falls in love with biodynamic farming: this is the story of Loacker winery, that started in 1979 in Sudtirolo and in 1996 in Montalcino, when Reiner Loacker arrived (on his bicycle!) in this enchanted land and tasted Brunello for the most classic 'love at first sight' kind of story. Pioneer of biodynamic farming applied to wine making, Reiner passed on this passion, spirit and commitment to his 3 sons that now run the estate under the supervision of the father. A great Brunello in which the warmth of the 2015 vintage can be felt in the glass, with a great intensity and quality of aromas such as maraschino cherry, dried violet, musk, leather, dried tobacco, graphite(pencil case) and an earthy note of underwood which appears to be the 'red thread' of the winery and of the North-Western area of Montalcino. Palate is generous in alcohol and robust in structure, yet fresh and extremely balanced, with a beautiful progression of fruits(blueberry, maraschino cherry) and an elegant note of tobacco, for a long-lasting finish that ends with a beautiful, polished tannin. Deep, meaningful and earthy like this beautiful soul-blues ballad. **100% Sangiovese. 2 bts in Shipment. Drink Through 2021-2028. Open 3h Before. Price range: \$55**

Croce di Febo 'Amore mio' Vino Nobile Riserva Docg 2016 Song: **Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay by Otis Redding**. "A combination of the knowledge of our past with modern know-how while respecting nature", this is the idea of wine making of Maurizio, fearless leader of this gem in Montepulciano: following the principles of organic and biodynamic farming, Maurizio offers a great lineup of wines whose quality, finesse and expressiveness are second to none. 'Amore mio' Nobile Riserva 2016, is a spectacular Sangiovese, result of a beautiful synergy between wine maker, soil, nature and vintage: its bouquet is intense but introspective, with beautiful floral notes of dried violet, iris and a marked note of black currant, a balsamic and herbaceous twist, with a ferrous note of meat due to the soil rich in iron. Palate is vibrant, fresh and intense, with a beautiful progression of black fruits and leather in the mouth with a sapid finish that dances with a firm, yet perfectly integrated, tannin. An introspective wine that reveals new shades as soon as it opens up, give it time as suggested by Otis Redding in this iconic song. **100% Sangiovese. 1 bt in Shipment. Drink Through 2021-2027. Open 2h Before. Price range: \$47**

Croce di Febo Nobile di Montepulciano Docg 2017 Song: **What's up by 4 Non Blondes**. In this Vino Nobile you can feel the heat of the 2017 Vintage, with a stunningly intense and complex bouquet that opens with a fruity side of Maraschino cherry and black currants, with a floral touch of violet, herbs and a leathery aroma, ending in an intriguing ferrous character, due to the soil rich in iron, that evolves in notes of raw meat. Palate is warm but supported with a pleasant freshness and a long-lasting ferrous-type minerality: the tannin is 'Alternative-Rock', firm on your lips and gums, yet masterfully handled considering the difficulties of the 2017 Vintage, and perfectly integrated in the structure. A beautiful Vino Nobile that perfectly expresses the concept of 'Terroir' with a great synergy between the soil and the wine maker. **80% Sangiovese, 20% Colorino, Canaiolo, Mammolo. 1bt in Shipment. Drink Through 2021-2025. Open 2h before. Price range \$29**

Querciabella Chianti Classico Docg 2018 Song: Hymn 43 by Jetro Tull. Organic since 1988, Biodynamic since 2000, the estate led by Sebastiano Cossia Castiglioni, was an innovator and an inspiration for the whole industry and their wines have always shined for their elegance, expressiveness and longevity. Querciabella have always combined the Biodynamic farming techniques with the use of French oak and small barrels but still preserving the true character of the wines produced in the Tuscan soil and this beautiful Chianti Classico confirms the trend. Aromas of rose, violet, ripe cherry and red currants, hints of herbs, tobacco and licorice: the oak flavors are never predominant on the fruity and floral components, showing a masterful use of small barrels. In the mouth this wine is pure Chianti Classico at its finest: rhythmic, vibrant, precise, fresh and intense, with a soft tannin at the end and a mouth-watering, long-lasting sensation of red currants in the palate. When Biodynamic meets technical perfection and small barrel meets the purity and sublimation of Chianti Classico: the kind of music that comes to my mind while I drink this wine is 'Progressive rock' and my favorite album of this genre: Aqualung by Jetro Tull. **100% Sangiovese. 2 bts in shipment. Drink Through 2021-2026. Open 3h before. Price range \$36**

Az. Agr. Colle Santa Mustiola Vigna Flavia Igt 2013 Song: Superstition by Stevie Wonder. Fabio Cenni has devoted his life to Sangiovese, recovering the heritage of the old family farm located in Chiusi (16 miles from Montepulciano), with 28 different clones of this incredible grape selected by him: Fabio now produces the finest Sangioveses outside the main appellations, in a unique setting, with spectacular cellar situated in an Etruscan tomb (dated back to the 25th Century BC!), overlooking the lakes of the region that guarantee the perfect climatic conditions for a high-quality wine. Vigna Flavia is the 'Entry level wine' of the winery, but ages more than a Brunello (total of 7 years of which 54 months in Big barrels), this shows how Fabio commits to top-quality standards and releases its wines only when they are ready to drink. A quintessential Sangiovese, with notes of crunchy red cherry, red currant, an elegant balsamic touch of eucalyptus and sage, tobacco, leather and a slight note of tilled earth. Palate is vertical, vibrant, rhythmic, with a beautiful crescendo of red fruits that underline the freshness of the wine and ends in a creamy tannin and a lingering sapid finish. A wine with a funky 'groove', like this masterpiece by Stevie Wonder. **100% Sangiovese. 2 bts in shipment. Drink Through 2021-2025. Open 3h before. Price range \$37**

Az. Agr. Farina Pierino 'Schiantolo' Vino Nobile Docg 2018 Song: Born to be Wild by Steppenwolf. The Farina family, led by the father Pierino and Lillo, runs one of the smallest wineries in Montepulciano with passion, respect and hard work: their goal is to make a wine with a marked Tuscan personality, tailored on their own palate and mostly produced for their friends, so I am glad to introduce you in a beautiful, intimate microcosm of Tuscan-ness. Produced in the small estate created by 'Nonno Beppino' in the 1940s, in the extremely limited quantity of 1900 bottles, this Vino Nobile is intense, straight-forward and extremely sincere, like its wine maker Lillo Farina: an intense aroma of maraschino cherry, red currant, gracious floral notes of iris and violet, tobacco and Tuscan Leather. Palate is fresh, straight-forward, vibrant, vertical and outspoken, with a tight tannin at the end that pairs perfectly with hard cheese and meat. A beautiful, wild, sincere expression of Vino Nobile, a wine with a strong Rock personality. **100% Sangiovese. 1bt in shipment. Drink Through 2021-2024. Open 3h before. Price range \$ 28**

Podere Le Ripi 'Amore e Follia' Igt 2019 Song: All the Small Things by Blink 182. Conceived by Francesco Illy as a Biodynamic winery since the beginning in 2003, Podere le Ripi is now a microcosm in Montalcino, a proper farm in which Francesco and his staff led by fearless Wine Maker Sebastian Nasello, have created a beautiful ecosystem in which all plants, animals and people work in perfect harmony and synergy, with the unique goal of making memorable wines in a sustainable environment. This wine is the blend of the small parcel of Syrah of the estate with the Sangiovese 'stolen' from the Brunello: aromas of crunchy cherry and pomegranate, a floral character of iris and red rose, a note of pink pepper given by the Syrah, sweet chocolate and an intriguing herbaceous note, result of the maceration with whole-clusters (so given by the stems). Palate is fresh, direct, vibrant with a lingering sapid finish, rich in red fruits and a pomegranate-style refreshing acidity that makes this wine dangerously enjoyable. An outspoken, cheeky wine with a pop-punk attitude. **50% Syrah 50% Sangiovese. 1bt in Shipment. Drink through 2021-2025. Open 2h before. Price range \$ 28**

Tenuta di Valgiano 'Palistorti' Rosso Colline Lucchesi Doc 2019 Song: **Tender by The Blur**. One of the pioneers of Biodynamic farming in Italy, Tenuta di Valgiano is a wonderful microcosm, located in Lucca, in which a beautiful synergy of soil, people and nature creates a harmonious environment for top-quality wines. Led by Moreno and Laura, Valgiano is now the main inspiration for all the producers in the area of Lucca and for all the biodynamic lovers in the country. 'Palistorti' is the younger red of the winery and shows a beautiful exuberance and a very precise expressiveness, with notes of red currants, sour cherry, dried violet and intriguing notes of licorice, leather, tobacco, with a final touch of eucalyptus. Palate has a beautiful texture and shows a perfect equilibrium, with a fresh and vibrant personality, a long lasting sensation of red fruits and a round, polished tannin. The wine reminds me of one of my favorite rock-pop ballads from the 90s, Tender by the Blur, for its structure and harmony with all the components. **70% Sangiovese, 20% Merlot, 10% Syrah. 1bt. Drink Through 2021-2026. Open 2h before. Price \$ 34**

Avignonesi 'I Grifi' Supertuscan Igt 2018 Song: **War Pigs by Black Sabbath**. Under the fearless leadership of Virginie Saverys, Avignonesi has become a true ambassador of biodynamic production in the last decade, combining the commitment for great wines with the respect for the environment. I Grifi is one of the iconic Supertuscans of the winery, result of the blend of Sangiovese and Carbernet Sauvignon from the estate located in Montepulciano. The wine is robust and intense, with an intriguing bouquet of black currants, black cherry, dried violet, herbs and a marked note of coffee, with a touch of cocoa and leather. Palate is fresh, warm and vibrant, with a lingering finish of dark fruits and a firm tannin typical of the Cab Sauvignon. A revolutionary, beautiful expression of the terroir of Montepulciano, applied to a high-quality Supertuscan, for a wine that shows how Biodynamic wines can be 'Hard-Rock', muscular and well-structured too! **50.3% Sangiovese, 49.7% Cab Sauvignon. 1bt in Shipment. Drink Through 2021-2026. Open 2h before. Price Range 42\$**



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