Wine expert **Eugenio Ciccarelli** shares a Vintner's Story...

First of all I would like to congratulate Karen for the relaunch of LoveEast. I think it is a pretty useful and informative magazine. It is also a free publication and fruit of a private enterprise: an unbiased voice from and for all the different communities in East London.

As a qualified oenologist, with Master of Wine Business, and judge member for the IWSC (international Wine & Spirit Competition) I have been asked to write this column to unveil what is behind the scenes of the fascinating and multifaceted world of wine. For this issue, I shall talk about what I do for a living and the story and philosophy behind **Vinarius**.

Wine merchant

Vinarius (latin for vintner) is an independent wine merchant, which imports the majority of its wine from Italy, France and Spain for retail, wholesale and online distribution.

So why all the troubles, logistics headaches and financial risks to source directly the wines from the producers? We could easily buy the wines from other UK importers and distributors, as most of the wine shops and restaurants do. Partly because this can give us an important commercial distinction but above all is our belief that the small wine merchants have a vital role in supporting independent viticulturists and wine producers around the world.

For us wine is not only an alcoholic drink but a complex and fascinating world that involves tradition, family heritage, culture, pride, history and often freedom and self-expression. Without small independent vintners like us, family producers, such as Gianni Doglia, Claude Nouveau, Cinzia Sommariva, David Sterza. Donato Giangirolami and others, wouldn't be present in the UK and our customers wouldn't be able to enjoy their fabulous and unique products.

Enoteca

In Italy the term enoteca is used to describe a wine shop / wine bar that offers a range of high-quality wines and a selection of regional dishes. Our rendition of a very traditional Mediterranean



concept is interpreted by a very talented and experienced Chef: **Sophie Downer**. She creates some wonderful dishes to match our wines, combining a compact menu with weekly specials. The philosophy is the same we use to choose our wines: great quality, genuine, earthy, homemade, no-nonsense dishes made from fresh ingredients.

We are not any ordinary restaurant and our food it about what is on offer - not on demand. See for yourself how you like the homemade pasta, the ox cheeks and polenta, friggitelli peppers, freshly baked focaccia, homemade almond and rhubarb cake and all the other food that Sophie prepares with her own hands.

VISIT US

Vinarius - 536 Roman Road, Bow E3 5ES

OPENING HOURS

Mon: 12pm - 7pm

Tues - Fri: 12pm - 11pm

Sat: 10am - 11pm

Sun: 10am - 10pm

Food is served Tuesday to Sunday from 6:00 pm.

We take reservations for private and corporate

parties and wine tastings

GET IN TOUCH

- store@vinarius.london
- 020 3302 0123

SOCIAL MEDIA

- @VinariusLondon
- @vinarius_on_the_roman
- winarius.london