WINES TO WATCH

These versatile wines have been hand-selected by Scarpetta sommeliers to best pair with the cuisine of Chef Scott Conant.

VINEYARD **TASTING NOTES** The winery is small, its tiny 12.5-acre estate located Scarzello Barolo Vigna Merenda **SCARZELLO** in the heart of Barolo, Italy. Family operated for Garnet color, with soft orange highlights. Full, three generations, the current winemaker and lingering aromas on the nose, and dry and warm enologist is Federico Scarzello. Using mostly on the palate with delicate, concise sensations. traditional cultivation and winemaking techniques, with a few modern exceptions, Federico continues Food Pairing: Roast meats, seasoned cheeses, to improve the quality of the wines and the and game. **BAROLO** visibility of the estate. His 1999 Barolo "Vigna Vigna Merenda Merenda" brought the family its first Gambero Rosso Tre Bicchieri award. Nicolis Amarone "Ambrosan" 2003 The Azienda Agricola Nicolis Angelo e Figli is 1998 located in San Pietro in Cariano, in the Valpolicella, **AMBROSAN** The gold standard for wine production at Nicolis, the heart of the "classic" zone. The art of viticulture it is a princely wine—full-bodied, elegant, and is a richness that the Nicolis family has passed AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA robust—and has an intense red pomegranate on for generations with the cultivation of the 87color. It is dry and generous in the mouth, but with CLASSICO acre family-owned property. The current winery delicate accents of vanilla. It has a complex perfume produces high-quality wines, due to the enterprising with odors of flowers and wood, of brushwood Nicolis strength and intuition of Angelo Nicolis and his wife, and leather. Natalia, along with their sons, Giancarlo, Giuseppe, NICOLIS ANGELO E FIGLI and Massimo, who personally conduct most of the Food Pairing: Roast game, roasted meats, and activities of the winery. hearty, flavorful cheeses. This tiny estate began when two Swiss wine Cascina Ebreo Torbido 2001 lovers followed their hearts to Italy. Romy Gigax Bouquet of ripe fruit that turns toward cinnamon and Peter Weimer had already envisioned their and licorice. Complex and powerful. grand Barolo, their exemplary Barbera, and their Food Pairing: Suckling pig, game, and fowl. experiments with powerful white wines before TORBIDO! buying the Cascina Ebreo in 1991. Seated in the Ravera zone near the village of Barolo, the estate and its more than five acres of vineyards were in complete disrepair when Romy and Peter arrived and plunged themselves into their new undertaking. Though still a well-kept secret for a lucky few, Cascina Ebreo has presented the world with some splendid wines that can compete with the best of their neighbors. Collemattoni Created by Ado Bucci, the father of Marcello, in Brunello di Montalcino 1982, the Collemattoni vineyard is located on the south side of Montalcino at an altitude of 1,000 to Aromas of tobacco, jammy fruits, 1,200 feet. The estate produces two wines: Brunello and a long, velvety finish. Brunello di and Rosso. The wine production is combined with Montalcino an extra-virgin olive oil and a Grappa di Brunello Food Pairing: Steak, pheasant, and wild boar. as well. Collemattoni

EXPERT SELECTIONS

Since 1999, Dino Tantawi of Vignaioli Selection has scoured Italy to bring his best wine finds to the American consumer. Tantawi's approach to selecting wines is reflected by his own wine attitude, philosophy, and experience, and he feels the history and background of vineyards and winemakers are essential to the character and regional depth of their wines. Found in each of Vignaioli's wine selections is an interpretation of terroir, varying microclimates, and winemaker philosophies.

Vignaiolo (vee-n'yah-EE'OH-loh): Italian for "vine-dresser," someone who tends to the vines (pl. vignaioli)



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