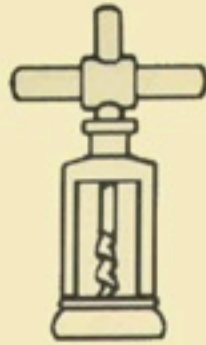


Robert M. Parker, Jr.'s



The WINE ADVOCATE®

The Independent Consumer's Bimonthly Guide to Fine Wine

TENUTA DI TRINORO	1999	CINCINNATO IGT	TUSCANY	(\$69.00)	RED	87
TENUTA DI TRINORO	1999	PALAZZI IGT	TUSCANY	(\$100.00)	RED	93
TENUTA DI TRINORO	1999	TRINORO IGT	TUSCANY	(\$100.00)	RED	92+

I continue to be amazed by the high quality wines produced by proprietor Andrea Franchetti. Self-trained, but a good friend of Jean-Luc Thunevin (of Château Valandraud and others) and Peter Sissick (of Pingus), Franchetti has been producing Cabernet Franc-based, Cheval Blanc-like efforts. Prices are steep, but the quality is in the bottle. In 2000, there will be a number of changes as 1999 is the last vintage for his cuvée of Palazzi. As a side note, barrel samples of the 2000 Trinoro IGT and his less expensive 2000 Trinoro Cupole di Trinoro were astonishing, and clearly the finest wines he has yet produced. If they continue to evolve, they will be mid-ninety point efforts when released in July, 2002. Readers should keep in mind that these are prodigious offerings that will quickly sell out.

The intriguing **1999 Cincinnato** (85 cases) was fashioned from the indigenous Cesanese d'Affile grape. Burgundian-like, it offers medium body, and luscious, sweet strawberry and cherry fruit notes. While it reveals good ripeness and charm, it is essentially superficial. Consume it over the next 3-4 years. The **1999 Palazzi** (800 cases of

a blend of 50% Cabernet Franc and 50% Merlot) boasts a dense ruby/purple color in addition to a complex nose of currants, cigar box, plums, and cherry liqueur with a hint of toasty oak in the background. Full-bodied, elegant, and complex, with a savory mid-palate and sweet tannin, it will drink beautifully for 12-14 years. Even better are the 1,300 cases of the **1999 Trinoro**, a blend of 70% Cabernet Franc, 20% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 4% Petit Verdot. Cropped at yields of 26 hectoliters per hectare, this profound, dark purple-colored offering reveals noteworthy aromas of mocha, black fruits, spice box, and toast. It possesses multiple layers, astounding richness, gorgeous purity, definition, and elegance, medium to full body, and a beautiful texture. Anticipated maturity: now-2015. These wines, in the style of Franchetti's friends, Peter Sissick and Jean-Luc Thunevin, were not fined, filtered, or stabilized, and essentially represent the most honest/authentic essence of their vineyard. They are the wines of a genius. Importer: Rare Wine Co., Sonoma, CA; tel. (707) 996-4484

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

As feeble and inadequate as words may be, we give homage to the thousands of Americans and foreign nationals who were killed or wounded because of the unprecedented acts of barbarism that occurred on September 11, 2001. Additionally, heartfelt thanks are extended to the tens of thousands of people who exhibited enormous courage and financial support to assist those families affected by these senseless and inhuman acts of terror. Lastly, many thanks to the hundreds of wine producers throughout the world who have sent us touching messages of sympathy.