PASSOPISCIARO

Passobianco 2020 | Passopisciaro

Denomination	IGT Terre SIciliane
Area of production	Mount Etna, North side, Sicily
Blend	Chardonnay 100%
Age of vineyard	20 years
Planting density	12.300 plants per hectare
Altitude	850-1000M A.S.L
Yield	70 Hl/Ha
Harvest-time	28-30 August 2020
Type of harvest	Hand-selected
Fertilization	Manure
Treatment	Sulfur dust, copper, clay, propolis, seed extract grapefruit
Vinification	Steel vats for 20 days at 23 degrees Celsius
Aging	17 months between cement vats and large oak barrels
Bottling	36090 bottles – Waning moon March 2022

Instead of the indigenous Carricante, which grows on the eastern side of the volcano, Passobianco is made of 100% Chardonnay. When Franchetti arrived on Mt. Etna, he planted 4 hectares of the grape on steep terraces between 850 and 1,000 meters/2,600 and 3,300 feet above sea level in Contrada Guardiola, in very loose, deep, powder-like lava that is rich in minerals. We began making this wine in 2007, and it is formerly known as Guardiola bianco.

Vintage 2020

The summer of 2020 was moderate with rains, and generally by the bad weather; at the end of the month July the heat returned, until the rain of 10th of August and finally those of early September.

Later, after the pools of white fermented and all went to the beach with the majestic mountain under the sun, came the rain accompanied by a little hail; A wind from the north blew all night and on the first of October the expected cold fell on the cities and villages.

For nearly a month the sky remained clear and from 14th of October all red grapes began to ripen.

The first to reach the winery was Cesanese d'Affile, more sensitive to the temperatures of mid-October.

It was the 24th of October when, after several tastings in the vineyard, Petit Verdot was also matured, the grapes brought with the aromas of oriental spices and a mixture of crunchy red fruits, with the achievement of maximum balance in the mouth at the dawn of the 26th of October; where we had to call even more harvesters from neighbouring counties to ensure we did not miss the moment.

Andrea Franchetti