

 **QUINTODECIMO**
VIGNAIOLI IN MIRABELLA ECLANO



• Antonio Galloni
vinous

Campania: Change Is Imminent...Or Is It?

BY ERIC GUIDO | JUNE 15, 2023

Every place in Italy has a producer who somehow manages to capture both the tradition and spirit of their region and add a polish (not quite international) that takes the wines to an entirely new level. In Campania, that is without a doubt Professor **Luigi Moio** of **Quintodecimo**. Lovers of old-school, traditional Taurasi may not resonate with the single-vineyard Taurasi Vigna Grande Cerzito or Vigna Quintodecimo, but no one can argue their quality. The wines are of the absolute highest caliber and very much at home on the world stage. However, they are far from inexpensive. What readers are paying for is extreme care in the vineyards (all organic and sustainable), the cellar, the hand-tailored experience, the perfectly manicured packaging and, of course, some of the top wines being made in Campania today. This house is not just about Aglianico either. The Falanghina Via del Campo, Fiano di Avellino Exultet and Greco di Tufo Giallo d'Arles are not to be missed. Quintodecimo's take on all three would impress just about any palate. The whites offer fantastic varietal purity, at extremely reasonable prices. As for the vintages presented in these recent notes, it bears mentioning that while many producers suffered through the 2018 vintage, Quintodecimo excelled. The two Taurasi are easily amongst the year's top wines, with amazing balance, complexity and concentration. Meanwhile, the whites from 2021 show the dry warmth of the year in their intense fruit profiles yet still maintain a fantastic balance of acidity.

Ultimately, they are incredibly pleasurable today.



Incense and clove combine musky black currants and Violette pastille to create a darkly alluring bouquet as the 2018 Taurasi Vigna Grande Cerzito slowly blossoms in the glass. This is pure seduction on the palate. It's silky-smooth and reined with polished dark red fruits and sweet inner herbal tones guided by vibrant acidity. It leaves the palate stained in licorice, tarry blackberry concentration and ne-grained tannins, yet the mouth waters for more. This is pure class. This is a genuinely harmonious Grande Cerzito that no lover of Quintodecimo should be without.

-- Eric Guido



The 2018 Taurasi Vigna Quintodecimo is a deep purple in the glass. It wafts up with a sweetly enticing blend of medicinal black cherries, cloves and dusty roses. It washes across the palate, more lifted and nessed than expected, and savory too, with a salty mix of blackberry and cocoa giving way to grippy tannins. The 2018 nishes structured and long, leaving a staining of primary concentration. It's surprisingly fresh, tapering o with nuances of sage and lavender. Patience is required so the 2018 can integrate its strong oak inuence, yet it will be worth the wait. The balance within is extraordinary.

-- Eric Guido



The 2020 Aglianico Terra d'Eclano is a model of class, with a gorgeous bouquet of violet, lavender, dried blueberries and incense. Its silky textures soothe as polished red and black fruits flow across a core of vibrant acidity. Rosy inner notes emerge over a staining of gentle tannins. Black tea, tart wild berries and citrus notes slowly fade. The 2020 is a remarkably pretty yet complex interpretation of Terra d'Eclano.

-- Eric Guido



93
points

The 2021 Fiano di Avellino Exultet opens with a vivid blend of freshly sliced yellow apples drizzled in raw honey, oset by a spritz of lemon. This is racy in style, with an inner sweetness up front that quickly gives way to salty minerals and zesty green citrus. Stimulating acidity adds a reverberation of tension as the 2021 nishes remarkably fresh. The cheeks are puckered as sour melon hints fade. This intense rendition of Exulte will win many hearts with its abundance of energy.

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95
points

Baked apples and pears come together with sweet mint, chamomile and the slightest accent of vanilla bean as the 2021 Taurasi Grande Cuvée evolves in the glass. Silky and elegant, this washes across the palate in perfect harmony as salty minerals combine with candied lime and zesty acidity. There's so much tension and depth traversing sour melon and tart green apple. The 2021 nishes with remarkable length. This is simply stunning and packed full of potential. The Grande Cuvée is a blend of 40% Greco, 20% Falanghina and 40% Fiano that renes for eight months on the lees in a combination of 60% new barrique and 40% stainless steel.

-- Eric Guido



A spicy and enticing blend of lemon oil, nectarine, grapefruit and sweet smoke wafts up from the 2021 Greco di Tufo Giallo d'Arles. It ows across the palate, texturally rich and nearly oily in feel, with stimulating acidity and depths of tart citrus- infused apple and pear. A caking of saline minerals is left to linger as the 2019 nishes impressively long with sour melon and raw almond hints. There's so much pent- up energy and tension, yet the 2021 is open for business. Drink today for its raw intensity, or cellar over the short term.

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The 2021 Falanghina Via del Campo is understated in the glass, whispering with orals, crushed pear, wet stone and white smoke. It's round and textural, with ripe orchard fruits and saline mineral tones that add a more tactile feel toward the close. This nishes with medium length, lemon rind bitterness and hints of green apple.

-- Eric Guido