

*15th June 2009, a starry night*

## ***Radici – the festival of native grapes***

***The fourth edition came to a successful and satisfactory end in the presence of wine experts as well as Italian and international personalities***

**Monopoli (Bari)** – a shiny night full of stars in the bright sky of Monopoli countryside and of many prizes given to the masters of vitiviniculture. Made in Puglia only, of course!

“**Radici**” fourth edition, the festival of wines produced by native grapes, promoted by **Propapilla Assosiation** with the commitment of its protagonists and experts **Nicola Campanile, Pasquale Porcelli** and **Enzo Scivetti**, and supported by Puglia Agriculture and Tourism Departments, came to a successful and happy end last night hosted by the charming **Il Melograno Relais and Chateaux**.

The contest is improving year on year, becoming more and more internationalized and proving its stability and consistency with the association’s mission and its quality standards as far both concept and targets. It’s a real project joining wine, territory and tourism exalting Puglia in all its makings of a successful region. People involved are really committed all year long. Not only Radici focuses on the festival, but it goes on planning guided tastings and events as well, attending well known contests such as Identità Golose in Milan and the 55<sup>th</sup> Summer Fancy Food in New York to be held in a few days.

As usual, after the two juries( the first made up of experts and the latter made up of lovers) ended their tastings at midday, at 6.30 p.m. a **congress** was held before a great number of producers, wine makers, restaurateurs, tour operators, lovers, journalists and institutional representatives.

After a short discussion guided by the journalist Michele Peragine, focusing his speech on the quality of wines and producers in Puglia, Nicola Campanile presented the new publishing initiative by Propapilla called “**Radici wines – Guide to Apulia wines by experts and wine lovers**”.

Being the result of the festival, the guide aims at reviewing every year Radici competing wines, both in Italian and English version, from the point of view of both wine experts and lovers. The architect and graphic designer Gianni Palatella has cured the concept design of the guide.

And finally, the prizes! First of all a commemorative plaque to honour **Cosimo Taurino** ten years after his death, recognising Taurino’s pioneering qualities as a sensitive supporter of Salento and Apulia vitiviniculture. Soon after the commemoration, the two juries were presented and thanked for participating. They were composed as follows:

**Jury made up of lovers: Teodosio Buongiorno** ( Già sotto l’arco restaurant – Apulia wine selector for Gambero Rosso), **Peppino Colamonaco** (wine expert), **Paolo Costantini** ( ONAV teacher and wine expert), **Francesco Zompì** (wine expert), **Beppe Schino** ( Perbacco restaurant, wine expert), **Luciano Lombardi** ( Vigna del Mar restaurant, wine expert), **Alessandra De Candia** ( De candia wine bar, wine expert), **Betty Mezzina** (A.I.S. sommelier, journalist, wine expert), **Giuseppe Fato** ( In Fermento wine bar, wine expert), **Luigi Iamele** (wine expert), **Giuseppe Brancoli** (wine expert), **Pierlorenzo Tasselli** (wine expert).

**Technical jury made up of journalists :** **Franco Ziliani** (journalist for vinoalvino.org, contributing editor for A.I.S - DeVinis magazine), **Carlo Macchi** (skilled taster and journalist for wine-surf.it), **Luciano Pignataro** (journalist), **Giampaolo Gravina** (Guide I Vini dell'Espresso), **Vito Intini** (official wine taster, ONAV national member), **Paul Op Ten Berg - Olanda** (journalist for "The Sommelier" ASI official magazine - Association de la Sommellerie Internationale), **David Furer - England** (Contributing Editor for Santé magazine US, author of "Which? Wine Guide" and "Wine Places"), **Lilian Turmes – Luxembourg** (well known judge of international tastings and journalist), **Natasha Hughes – England** (International journalist writing for important wine magazines such as Decanter), **Tom Cannavan – Scotland** (skilled taster and free lance journalist), **Mikko Montonen - Finland** (wine writer and judge for important international wine competitions), **Wilfried Moselt - Germany** (wine writer and official wine taster).

Prize-giving for each category:

**Absolute winners of the festival:**

- 1) **Polvanera - Polvanera 17 2006**
- 2) **Nicola Chiaromonte – Primitivo Riserva 2006**
- 3) **Pietra Ventosa – Primitivo Riserva 2006**

Winners for each flight:

Second placed white wine from native grapes – by lovers : Cantele – Alticelli 2008  
Second placed white wine from native grapes – by experts: La Marchesa – Il Quadrello 2008  
First placed white wine from native grapes – by lovers : Polvanera - Aùva 2008  
First placed white wine from native grapes – by experts: I Pastini – Rampone 2008

Second placed rosé wine from native grapes – by lovers: Santi Dimitri – Aruca 2008  
Second placed rosé wine from native grapes – by experts: La Marchesa – Il Melograno 2008  
First placed rosé wine from native grapes – by lovers: Rivera – Pungirosa 2008  
First placed rosé wine from native grapes – by experts: Paolo Leo – Fuxia 2008

Second placed Nero di Troia – lovers: Agricola Tarantini – Petriagnana 2007  
Second placed Nero di Troia – experts: Fujanera – Arrocco 2008  
First placed Nero di Troia – lovers: Santa Lucia: Riserva le More 2006  
First placed Nero di Troia – experts: Valle dell'elce – Essenziale 2008

Second placed Negroamaro - lovers: Candido – Duca D' Aragona 2003  
Second placed Negroamaro - experts: Palamà – Mavro 2007  
First placed Negroamaro - lovers: Apollonio – Divoto 2001  
First placed Negroamaro - experts: Cantine Menhir - Salice Salentino 2007

Second placed Primitivo – lovers: S. Maria del Morige – Settantasei 2007  
Second placed Primitivo – experts: Fatalone – Primitivo Riserva 2000  
First placed Primitivo – lovers: Morella – La Signora 2005  
First placed Primitivo – experts: Ferri – Purpureus 2007

Second placed Aglianico del Vulture – lovers: Lucania – Grifalco 2006  
Second placed Aglianico del Vulture – experts: Lucania – Grifalco 2006  
First placed Aglianico del Vulture – lovers:: Cantine del Notaio – La Firma 2006  
First placed Aglianico del Vulture – experts: Macarico – Aglianico del vulture 2006

After giving certificates, guests went on tasting all the competing wines and had a delicious dinner prepared by the following renewed chefs: **Teresa Buongiorno** (Già sotto l'arco in Carovigno BR), **Leonardo Vescera** (Il Capriccio in ViesteFG), **Lucia Schiavone** (Antiche Sere in Lesina FG), **Nicola Maino** and **Gianluca Ferri** (Masseria Barbera in Minervino Murge BA), **Onofrio Serio** (Il Melograno in Monopoli BA).

Delicious flower flavours, perfect climate, high profile and exquisite taste were what the old Masseria il Melograno, now become Relais and Chateaux owned by the Guerra family, offered.

It's dark night, we happily say goodbye, more and more aware and eager to go on discovering and understanding our roofs, defending the sense of belonging that makes us unique, starting from the wine.