Cantina Mesa,

`Primo Rosso` Carignano Isola dei Nuraghi 2013

Sardinia, Italy



Grape Varieties	**100% Carignano**
Winemaker	**Stefano Cova**
Closure	**Natural Cork**
ABV	**13%**
Notes	**Vegetarian, Vegan**

PRODUCER

This is one of the most exciting wineries to come out of Sardinia in two decades. It is the brainchild of Gavino Sanna, a Sardinian who has lived in Milan for the past 50 years, where he built up one of Italy's most successful advertising agencies. On a whim, he decided to sell the agency and seek new challenges. One of these challenges was the creation of a winery in Sulcis in southwestern Sardinia. As might be expected from someone with Sanna's background, the labels are striking. He has also ensured that the contents are equally striking. Stefano Cova, a young winemaker from Trentino, took over with the 2008 vintage, improving on already high levels of quality.

VINEYARDS

The estate comprises 70 hectares in the heart of Sulcis Iglesiente. The largest part of the vineyards is located in the Sant'Anna Arresi area, in a valley sheltered from the maestrale winds and surrounded by the sea. The vines are vertically trained, largely to spurred cordon, some to the alberello, or bush, style, depending on local conditions and exposure.

VINTAGE

The 2013 winter experienced above-average rainfall, lasting well into the spring, building up valuable groundwater reserves in this area which commonly experiences long periods of drought. The summer, in contrast to the two preceding seasons, did not bring spells of torrid, humid heat, allowing slow and consistent vine growth. October brought quite unusual weather conditions, concluding with warm, sunny days and cool night-time temperatures, ideal for the aromatic development in the berries.

VINIFICATION

After the grapes were destemmed and crushed, the juice flowed using gravity into fermenters on the level below where the must underwent maceration and fermentation for four to six days. The wine remained for three months in stainless steel tanks and in lined cement vats before bottling. The wine was aged for a further two months before release.

TASTING NOTES

Deep ruby red in colour. Bouquet is rich, with emphatic fragrances of ripe wild berry fruit. Impressions of red berry fruit continue on the palate, which boasts a firm structure and notable balance among its components. The finish is long and lingering.