

`Vertigo` 2011

Colli Orientali, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy



Grape Varieties	60% Merlot 40% Cabernet Sauvignon
Winemaker	Andrea Felluga and Violel Floc
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13%
Residual Sugar	7.8g/L
Acidity	5.6g/L
Wine pH	3.5
Notes	Sustainable, Vegetarian

PRODUCER

Livio Felluga emigrated from Istria and established his property in Brazzano in the 1950s. Convinced of the winemaking potential inherent in Collio and the Colli Orientali of Friuli, he bucked the trend of the times and started buying vineyards. Their landmark Terre Alte was first produced in 1981 and they have continued to make innovative and consistently high quality wines since. Winemaker Andrea Felluga has embraced stelvin in a characteristically forward-looking way. After experimenting with the closure for five years, he felt confident in using the stelvin closure to retain freshness and perfume in his wines.

VINEYARDS

The vines are Guyot-trained on marl and sandstone soils. The vineyards are managed with an ecologically sustainable approach to viticulture.

VINTAGE

The beginning of spring 2011 was wet with heavy rainfall before the weather changed and remained beautiful with ideal temperatures throughout the growing season. During the harvest the weather was fine and dry, if a little hot at the beginning, then ideal conditions continued until the end of the harvest period. The 2011 wines are excellent quality and are characterised by great balance, one of the best vintages of the last ten years.

VINIFICATION

After manual harvesting the bunches were de-stemmed and crushed before fermentation and maceration on the skins in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks. The juice was pumped over the cap frequently for about three weeks, in order to extract colour and aroma compounds from the skins. The wine was then racked. Maturation in stainless steel and small barrels of French oak lasted 12 months. The bottled wine was aged in temperature-controlled binning cellars for nearly four months.

TASTING NOTES

A black cherry red wine with intense purple highlights. The nose is intense, fruity and herbaceous. It offers aromas of cherries, red pepper, currant, blackberries and blueberries which are integrated with sweet spices and liquorice. On the palate the wine is vibrant, long, and well-structured. The tannins are well balanced with the acidity, it is intensely fruity and herbaceous with a spicy aftertaste.