



Poggio Anima 'Belial'

Tuscany - Italy 2011

A collaboration between famed Brunello di Montalcino producer Riccardo Campinoti and his importer from Vine Street, Ronnie Sanders, whose wines attract as much attention for what's on the label as what's in the bottle. Poggio Anima is designed to over-deliver for its modest price point.

One of the four crown princes of hell. Roughly translated to 'without yoke' in Hebrew. It is believed that Belial is the purest definition of 'lawlessness.' The correlation is that much of what has come to be known as 'Supertuscans' or 'IGT' is simply lawless. People blending international varietals with indigenous varietals, etc.

This is 100% Sangiovese sourced from a single Montecucco vineyard. This wine puts the 'super' in SuperTuscan and certainly at this price. Winemaker, Riccardo Campinoti is a firm believer that the wine is made in the vineyard and when he found this one with mature vines (averaging 15 years of age) he knew he had something special. The grapes were hand harvested and the fermentation included 2 weeks of skin contact to extract rich flavors and color. Aging is in neutral barrels so the Sangiovese fruit is the star here.

2008 was the inaugural vintage for this wine and the response was overwhelming to say the least. It is not too often where the marketplace smiles in unison when selling and drinking a wine, but that happened here. This is a pretty serious and structured wine for this price. The 2011 has considerable amount of fruit, in a positive way. The vintage was even and nearly flawless until about a month before harvest when a hot cell from Africa descended upon Tuscany and decided to stay put for the rest of the summer. Harvest was a few weeks earlier than usual, though the wine has great balance and looks more like 2005 than 2003.

Composition

100% Sangiovese

Production

3,000 cases

Élevage

10 months in Slavonian botti

Vine Age

18 years

Yields

3.4 tons/acre

Soils

Clay over Limestone

Farming Practices

Certified Organic

Tasting Notes

“ This flows from the glass with notable warmth and richness in its dark red fruit, mocha, espresso, smoke and grilled herbs. The ripeness of the vintage is beautifully balanced in a mid-weight style that avoids the excessive heaviness.. The finish is silky and elegant. ”

Reviews

None

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