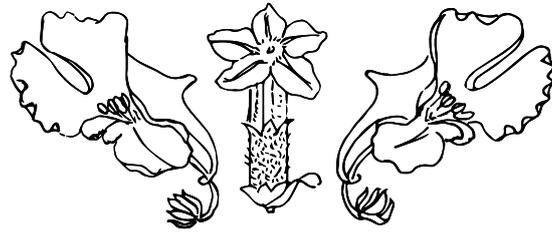


LUIGI BAUDANA



PRESS REPORT

2021

ON THE WINERY

Vinous
Antonio Galloni

February 2020

2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time

“The Vaira family has turned out a magnificent set of Barolos at both their own winery and at Baudana. (...) At Baudana, the wines are naturally more muscular, but that is Serralunga, after all. Most importantly, the Vairas have developed a personal style that melds classicism with a level of approachability that makes these wines so alluring, even upon release.”

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February 2018

2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise...

“These are some of the finest wines I have tasted from the Vajra family’s Luigi Baudana estate in Serralunga. All three Barolos are endowed with a real sense of Serralunga structure that distinguishes them from the Barolos the Vajras make under their historic family label.”

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September 2014

2010 Barolo: Flying High Again

“The Vajra family continues to do terrific work in their resurrection of the Baudana estate in Serralunga. These three 2010 Barolos are all fabulous and well worth seeking out.”

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January 2014

2010 Barolo: Flying High Again

“Aldo Vajra, his wife Milena, and their children Giuseppe, Isidoro and Francesca, have done a magnificent job in resuscitating Baudana (...). The Baudana wines are naturally richer and more powerful than the wines the Vajras make in Barolo, reflecting their Serralunga origins. (...)”

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The Wine Spectator
Bruce Sanderson

June 2019

“The Luigi Baudana estate, owned by the Vajra family of G.D. Vajra in Barolo, is located in the small hamlet of Baudana. The winery makes two traditionally-styled crus, Cerretta and Baudana, from less than 6,5 acres of vineyards. It also make a Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d’Alba from both vineyard’s younger Nebbiolo vines. The Cerretta is the most vertical of the two, coming from the cooler Cerretta Piani section of the cru. showing fine depth of fruit and aging potential. The Baudana, equally capable of longevity, typically reveals more density and muscle.”

BAROLO BAUDANA



BAROLO CERRETTA



- 17** 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021
Pale to mid garnet (less orange than the Vajra 2017s). Intense autumn leaf mulch on the nose. Sweeter and beefier - with even a hint of meat extract - than the Vajra wines. Pretty dry and with sandy tannins on the end. Quite a powerhouse.
- 95+** 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again, Feb 2021
The 2017 Barolo Baudana is such a gorgeous wine. It, too conveys the power of Serralunga, but with a bit less heft than is typically the case. Sweet dark cherry, iron, cedar, rose petal, mint and white pepper give the 2017 its effusive, inviting personality. This is such a tremendous showing.
- 96** 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator
Macerated cherry and raspberry fruit is supported by rose, iron and eucalyptus flavors in this red, which is complex and intense, with an elegant frame and beautifully integrated tannins. Just as this feels approachable, the fine-grained tannins take hold, ending with a very long finish.
- 95+** 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020
Quite pretty, floral, dried roses, dried cherry, a bit of mineral. Full-bodied, but kind of light on its feet, succulent, dried strawberry, fresh and lively, a juicy orange and dried mint character, tannin grips gently, but feels dry and mineral, and the finish is again all red fruits layered in with spice. And long. Quite the charmer.
- 95** 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020
Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with pressed rose, new leather and small red berry. Firmly structured and youthfully austere, the linear palate features dried cherry, licorice, cinnamon and tobacco alongside assertive but noble tannins and fresh acidity.
- 95** 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020
- 95** 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time, Feb 2020
- 17.5** 2016 - Walter Speller, Jancis Robinson, 2016 Barolo - still shining bright, Aug 2020
- 95+** 2015 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Apr 2019
- 95** 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, Hot Wines, Wine Spectator, Jun 2019
- 94+** 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture, Feb 2019
- 93+** 2014 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018
- 17.5** 2014 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2014 - last tranche of a surprising vintage, Apr 2018
- 95** 2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise, Feb 2018

- 17+** 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021
Mid garnet. Some floral notes and great breadth of fruit. Quite galumphing in its impact with pretty dry tannins on the end. These Baudana wines seem more backward than the Vajras. Real texture and mouthfeel and somehow an impression of purple (rather than black or red) fruit. There's a sweet perfume here and something a bit wild. Intense and earthy.
- 95** 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again, Feb 2021
A dark, somber wine, the 2017 Barolo Cerretta shows the more potent, brooding side of Serralunga. Black cherry, gravel, smoke, cured meats, cloves and menthol add to an impression of virile intensity and pure power. Readers will have to be patient here, but there is certainly a ton to look forward to. This is another impressive showing from Baudana and the Vajra family.
- 96** 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020
Cerretta is one of my personal favorite growing sites in Serralunga d'Alba, thanks to that more pronounced mineral signature of rusty nail or crushed stone that comes into plain view. White marl soils cover reddish clay not too far under the surface. Those territorial markers are especially well defined in this classic vintage. The Luigi Baudana 2016 Barolo Cerretta unfolds slowly in the glass to reveal orange peel, blue flower and camphor ash. There is generous black fruit in there as well, carefully woven into the greater texture of the wine. The tannins are accessible and integrated, and that's an important fact to know when measuring the wine's drinking window. You could age it longer or even contemplate a cork-popping in the not-so-distant future.
- 96** 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020
Dark cherry, earth, brooding, lavender, floral things, dried herbs, sweet almond and spice. Ferrous, full-bodied, a heap of quality black tea and gravel tannin, but married to succulence of sweet red cherry and freeze dried raspberries, plenty of 'mineral' character here, and a long rose oil laced finish. And almonds. Plenty of almonds. The quality of tannin on the finish, and the length, compels me to bump the score up a point.
- 95** 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020
- 95** 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator
- 95** 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time, Feb 2020
- 17+** 2016 - Walter Speller, Jancis Robinson, 2016 Barolo - still shining bright, Aug 2020
- 96** 2015 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Apr 2019
- 95** 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, Hot Wines, Wine Spectator, Jun 2019
- 95** 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture, Feb 2019

BAROLO SERRALUNGA



LANGHE BIANCO DRAGON



- 93** 2017 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again, Feb 2021
The 2017 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba may very well turn out to be one of the best wines of the year in its peer group. Dark and wonderfully expressive, yet also light on its feet for a Serralunga Barolo, the 2017 has so much going on. Black cherry, plum, spice, gravel, cured meats, lavender and sage all meld together in this dark yet translucent Barolo.
- 93** 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, *Wine Enthusiast*, Sep 2020
Fragrant aromas of blueflower, forest-berry menthol form the enticing nose. Smooth, taut and delicious, the focused palate delivers juicy Marasca cherry, spiced cranberry and star anise alongside firm, polished tannins and bright acidity.
- 93** 2016 - Monica Lerner, *The Wine Advocate*, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020
The 2016 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba achieves a loose and open fiber that gives this wine the most accessible personality among these three Baroli released by Luigi Baudana (owned by G.D. Vajra). On the Barolo scale, the fruit is sharp and straightforward with easily identifiable tones of black cherry, plum and cassis. The intensity of that characteristic Nebbiolo licorice and cola is downplayed in this wine, as dark fruit is the leading force. However, this vintage introduces the acidity and natural structure to play the wine forward for 10 years or more.
- 93** 2016 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time, Feb 2020
- 92** 2015 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture, Feb 2019
- 93** 2014 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
- 92** 2014 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise, Feb 2018
- 91** 2014 - Monica Lerner, *Wine Advocate*, #237, Jun 2018
- 17+** 2013 - Matthew Jukes, *The Piemonte Report* 2017
- 94** 2013 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
- 92** 2013 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2013 Barolo: Sublime Finesse & elegance, Feb 2017
- 17+** 2012 - Matthew Jukes, *The Piemonte Report* 2017
- 91** 2012 - Kerin O'Keefe, *Wine Enthusiast*
- 90** 2011 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
- 91** 2011 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, Aug. 2014

- 93** 2018 - Gary Walsh, *The Wine Front*, Apr 2020
Lovely lovely version of this wine. Gooseberry, papaya, slight grass and spice. Juicy, a little chalky, just right acidity to shape it. but nothing harder. Finish has length and pink grapefruit zing, along with a pineapple and passionfruit exotica.
- 93** 2017 - Mike Bennie, *The Wine Front*, Apr 2019
Fragrant wine of great interest, vivacity and fruitiness. Scents of frangipani, candied citrus, fresh apple juice, bath salts. Palate is sweet-ish, fruity as can be, a touch sweet but cut nicely with lemony acidity, indeed, almost Warhead Lolly tang here. It's a little wild and savoury underneath that, which keeps things interesting. I like this. Exotic.
- 90** 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
This is delicate aromatically, boasting floral, peach, apple and lemon notes. There's more weight on the palate, where the peach and apple flavors reign, playing out with citrus and spice accents. Shows fine harmony and texture. Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and Riesling. Drink now through 2020. 1,800 cases made. -BS
- 2015 - Will Lyons, The Times, Wine: A sample of la dolce vita, Jan 2017**
A sensational white from Italy's northern Langhe region, this is ever so slightly perfumed on the nose with a searingly dry, complex finish. A shoo-in for those days when you are gathered round a bowl of steaming seafood pasta.
- 16.5** 2014 - Walter Speller, Jancis Robinson, *Walter's mixed Italians - the North*, May 2016
Riesling, Chardonnay, Sauvignon, Nascetta. Riesling dominates the nose. Honeyed lemony peach with a touch of lees, and a little lifted. Lovely viscous palate with long-lasting peach fruit. Well made.
- 16.5** 2012 - Jancis Robinson, *Wine of the Week* April 4, 2014
This distinctive white really caught my attention at a recent tasting of wines the Wine Society in the UK is especially proud of. Not only did it strike me as being particularly complex and good value, I was intrigued by what had gone into it. It was described as a Chardonnay but - and I hope the great god of Chardonnay will forgive me for writing this - it tasted much more interesting than this. It was so aromatic that I was convinced there was some Riesling in it. [...]

