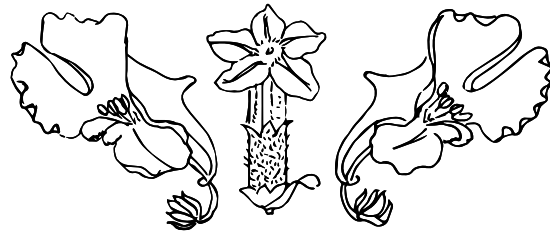


LUIGI BAUDANA



PRESS REPORT

2019

ON THE WINERY

Vinous
Antonio Galloni

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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October 2013

Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco

“The Vajra family has done a magnificent job since they took over Baudana in 2008. These Barolos are now among the best in Piedmont, and my sense is they will get even better as the Vajra’s get to know these vineyards in Serralunga more intimately. The Vajras are among the most down to earth, humble producers in Piedmont. With wines like this, there is no need to say anything. The wines more than speak for themselves.”

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



95+ 2015 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Apr 2019

Earth, spice, blood, a bit reductive as at now, plus red berries. Full-bodied, powerful, but juicy with sweetness of red fruit, grip and open-weave tannin, fresh, tannic and long. Brooding. Really needs a good bit of time, but what a beautiful wine.

95 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, Hot Wines, Wine Spectator, Jun 2019

Macerated cherry, floral, licorice, mineral and Asian spice flavors highlight this firmly structured red. Taut and balanced, with plenty in reserve, building to a long, detailed finish.

94+ 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture, Feb 2019

The 2015 Barolo Baudana is powerful, ample and deep, with tons of brightness to play off the sweet red cherry and pomegranate fruit. Already quite expressive, the 2015 appears to have a very bright future. Even today, its balance is simply impeccable. Within the context of the year, the 2015 Baudana is one of the most polished refined wines readers will taste.

93+ 2014 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018

Baudana has consistently maintained its reputation for top-notch Nebbiolo. In fact, those who farmed this vineyard never had difficulty selling its fruit. Barolo Baudana was one of the first crus to be exported successfully into foreign markets. The site sees sandy limestone mixed with veins of heavier blue clay. You get both elegance and structure as a result. The 2014 Barolo Baudana reveals black and purple fruit characteristics with ethereal tones of smoke, tar and spice on the finish.

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

94 2013 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2013 Barolo: Sublime Finesse & Elegance, Feb 2017

17.5+ 2013 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017

94 2013 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

17+ 2012 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2012 – a vintage with issues – May 2016

93 2012 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast

94 2012 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

91 2012 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2012 Barolo: Grace Under Pressure, Mar. 2016

17.5+ 2012 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017

BAROLO CERRETTA



- 96** 2015 - Gary Walsh, *The Wine Front*, Apr 2019
Greetings from Alba. A couple of days ago we tasted through the range at Vajra, and what a great morning it was. Even for the slightly jaded, big smiles and excitement. Licorice, dark fruit, gentle spice, succulence, power, black tea and iron, tannin is just typical of the vineyard, and so sweet, so lovely, and fresh too. Length; carries on and on. Hello! Here's a wine that moves me. The shortest note, and note, no spitting, much smiling. I wrote 96-97 as the score, but will proceed with caution.
- 95** 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, *Hot Wines, Wine Spectator*, Jun 2019
Ripe and juicy, displaying macerated cherry and plum flavors, complemented by menthol and rosemary notes. A line of mineral underscores all the elements, revealing a dense matrix of fine tannins on the finish.
- 95** 2015 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture*, Feb 2019
If the Baudana is a wine of sensuality, the 2015 Barolo Cerretta is a Barolo of virile, explosive power, which, among other things, shows just how different the wines of Serralunga can be. Black cherry, plum, sage, menthol and licorice hit the palate in a firm, massively tannic Barolo that is going to require considerable patience. The Cerretta is the embodiment of Serralunga richness and structure. What a wine!
- 93** 2014 - Monica Lerner, *Wine Advocate*, #237, Jun 2018
The Cerretta vineyard is distinguished by thick red clay soils at its lower elevations. This segment of the vineyard provides the power and structure that holds this wine so firmly together. Indeed, that sense of power and dark fruit momentum outpaces the delicate and nuanced characteristics that are generally attributed to the cooler and immediate 2014 vintage. The 2014 Barolo Cerretta is a powerhouse wine—packed tight with dark fruit, spice and licorice—that should hold steady over the next 10-20 years of cellar aging.
- 17** 2014 - Jancis Robinson, *Barolo 2014 – last tranche of a surprising vintage*, Apr 2018
- 17+** 2013 - Matthew Jukes, *The Piemonte Report* 2017
- 93+** 2014 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous, 2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise...*, Feb 2018
- 94** 2013 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
- 95** 2013 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous, 2013 Barolo: Sublime Finesse & Elegance*, Feb 2017
- 17.5** 2013 - Jancis Robinson, *Barolo Night 2 in New York*, Oct. 2017
- 92** 2012 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous, 2012 Barolo: Grace Under Pressure*, Mar. 2016
- 92** 2012 - Kerin O'Keefe, *Wine Enthusiast*
- 95** 2012 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*

BAROLO SERRALUNGA



- 92** 2015 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2015 Barolo...*The Bigger Picture*, Feb 2019
The 2015 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba is a blend of mostly younger vine fruit from Cerretta and Baudana. Deep and expressive in the glass, the 2015 is a fabulous wine in its peer group. Smoke, tar, dark red fruit, iron and wild herbs add striking nuance to a Barolo that shows all the muscle and power of Serralunga while retaining a mid-weight feel. I would prefer to cellar it for at least a few years. The combination of beguiling aromatics, supple fruit and good supporting structure makes for a compelling, delicious Barolo.
- 93** 2014 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
A top note of blood orange in the aroma segues into cherry, kirsch, menthol and iron flavors. Muscular, compact and firm, with a linear finish. Best from 2023 to 2042.—B.S
- 92** 2014 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2014 Barolo: *Surprise, Surprise*, Feb 2018
Baudana's 2014 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba is a fabulous entry-level bottling. Muscular Serralunga tannins enshroud a core of intense dark red fruit. The straight Barolo is a blend of fruit from the Baudana and Cerretta vineyards, and yet the wine has a level of aromatic brightness and lift that isn't found in either of the vineyard designates. Everything about the 2014 is compelling.
- 91** 2014 - Monica Lerner, *Wine Advocate*, #237, Jun 2018
This wine aspires to a greater Serralunga d'Alba identity, as opposed to a specific single cru (Baudana or Cerretta) distinction. This makes the 2014 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba more accessible and immediate in approach. The wine is also distinguished by the softness of the cool 2014 vintage that is matched nicely against the power and strength of the Serralunga d'Alba fruit. Ultimately, these contrasting forces find harmony here. The bouquet is stitched together with pleasing wild cherry, spice and licorice aromas.
- 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
- 94** 2010 - Bruce Sanderson, *Wine Spectator*
- 94** 2010 - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*, 2010 Barolo: *Flying High Again*, Sep. 2014

LANGHE BIANCO DRAGON



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. [...]

