



Ellena Giuseppe

2016

'ASCHERI' BAROLO

Langhe - Italy



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Nebbiolo
Vineyard: Ascheri Vineyard
Vine Age: 46-years-old
Soil Type: Calcareous clay
Viticulture: Practicing organic
Fermentation: Native – stainless-steel
Skin Contact: 45-60 days
Aging: 30 months in 70% French barrique (5% new – 95% 3+-years-old) and 30% 25L Slavonian botti
pH: 3.32
Total Acidity: 6.03 g/L
Total SO2: 90 ppm
Total Production: 208 cases

Reviews

James Suckling | 94 points
Wine & Spirits | 94 points

About

Older vines, higher altitude, lower yields and a bit of new wood – that is the difference between this and the commune bottling. The result is noticeable and appreciable. This one hectare block was planted in 1969 at 1,121 feet in elevation. The winemaking and élevage are essentially the same with a couple of new barriques being tossed into the mix with the large barrels and neutral barriques. The soil composition is a bit denser than the normale, which is unusual given its higher elevation. In both cases the soils lack the sandy compounds often found in La Morra that gives the perfume and elegance and they have more in line with the Barolo commune.

The grapes were hand-harvested in mid-October and fully-destemmed. The fermentations were carried out in open-top stainless-steel tanks with ambient yeast only. The first ten days on skins saw frequent manual punchdowns and then an additional seven weeks on skins once the cap submerged. After a total of 60 days on skins the wine was pressed primarily to old 25hL barrels and 225L barriques but with two new barriques for good measure. Malolactic fermentation carried out naturally in the spring, with a small sulfur addition after 14 months of aging. After a total of 30 months of maturation the wine was racked to tank to settle naturally and bottled without fining or filtration and just a small addition of sulfur.

Tasting Note

Brilliant garnet in color with orange highlights. Firm, elegant and potent on the nose, it has scents of intense roses, mint and tobacco, scents that meld over the course of time into spice, coffee, liquorice, truffle, leather and minerals. A full-bodied, rounded bouquet of great structure and balance, redolent of plum jam and withered brambles.