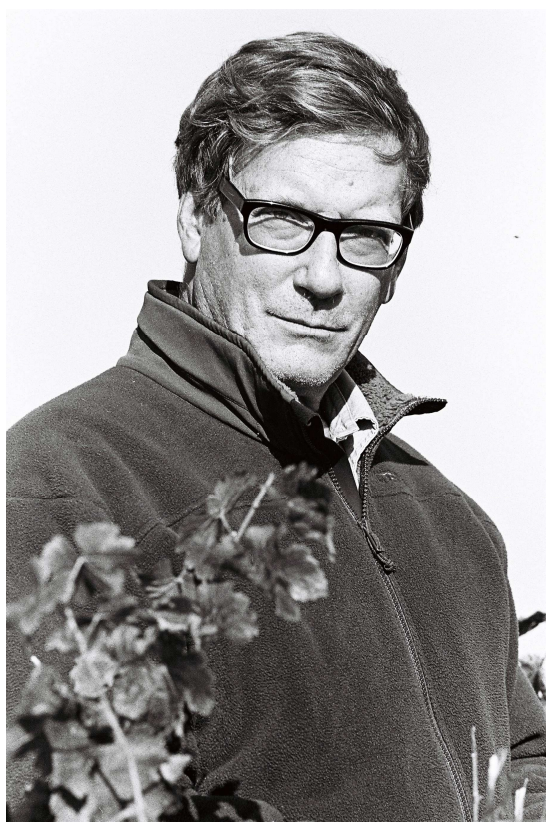




“Andrea Franchetti wasn’t content to just make profound wines at his Tuscan estate, Tenuta di Trinoro, so he set out to replicate that success at Passopisciaro, his property on Mount Etna. These new releases are nothing less than breathtaking”



FRANCHETTI 2006 – IGT SICILIA

97 POINTS

Franchetti hit the bull’s eye with his 2006 Franchetti, which is made from Petit Verdot and Cesanese d’Affile grown on the terraced vineyards of the Guardiola vineyard. The super-ripe personality of the house style is present but in this vintage that quality is kept within the confines of a well-articulated, poised expression that offers plenty of freshness and detail. This is a striking red loaded with sweet spices, cassis, plums and new leather, all of which are woven together with profound elegance. The finish is superb and nearly lasts into the next day. The 2006 Franchetti is one of the greatest wines ever made in Sicily. This is a brilliant achievement. Bravo! Anticipated maturity: 2010-2021.

PASSOPISCIARO 2006 – IGT SICILIA

93 POINTS

I am not sure how he manages to do it, but the 2006 Passopisciaro somehow reconciles the super-ripe style that is Franchetti’s signature without sacrificing the weightless, ethereal personality of the wines of Etna. Think of the 2006 Passopisciaro as a cross between Pinot Noir and Nebbiolo. The wine possesses incredible purity to its candied red cherries, spices and flowers. The wine blossoms on the palate with extraordinary depth and length. This gorgeous effort will be tempting to drink young as the sheer density of the fruit is compelling, but the wine is so primary at this stage one can only wonder what might develop in bottle. This is a wonderful effort from Franchetti. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2021.

PASSOPISCIARO 2007

92 POINTS

The just-bottled 2007 Passopisciaro is a weightless yet powerful wine redolent of sweet candied cherries, flowers, herbs and minerals. The wine reveals lovely density and purity, even if a few days of rain towards the end of the growing season in November robbed it of the intensity that informs the very finest vintages. Still, there is gorgeous purity to the fruit that insures this will be fascinating wine to follow over the coming years. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2021

GUARDIOLA 2007

90 POINTS

The 2007 Guardiola (Chardonnay) is a gorgeous new white from Andrea Franchetti. Notes of apricots, peaches, earthiness and minerals all come together in this precise, mid-weight offering. The wine literally shimmers on the palate as it opens up in the glass, showing tons of detail and clarity. I am curious to see how this wine develops with a few years in bottle, but it is highly promising even at this stage. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2014.