

Anthony Dias Blue/Patterson's Tasting Panel Report



by Anthony Dias Blue

The October 2006 tasting was held at Jar, Suzanne Tracht's stylishly retro chophouse on Beverly Boulevard in Los Angeles. The selection of wines was diverse both geographically and in terms of price point. Here are notes on some of my personal favorites, along with those of selected Tasting Panel members.

Sartori di Verona 2005 Soave, Italy (\$12) A minerally white that's "perfumed and silky," according to John Allee, wine buyer at Angeli Caffé. 87 points.

Sella & Mosca 2005 Terre Bianche Torbato di Alghero, Sardinia (\$14) The white Torbato grape is an interesting Sardinian specialty; smooth and ripe with minerals and light acidity. 87 points.

Beckmen 2005 Grenache Rosé, Purisima Mountain Vineyard, Santa Ynez Valley (\$18) This spicy rosé is "balanced and harmonious," reports Alex Ciubal, wine and spirits director for Bristol Farms. 89 points.

Grant Burge 2002 The Holy Trinity, Barossa, Australia (\$34) A rich and juicy Grenache-Syrah-Mouvedre with lively plum and blackberry fruit and crisp acid structure. 90 points.

Duckhorn 2003 Merlot, Three Palms Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$80) Dense and concentrated with lovely plum and cassis fruit and excellent structure. 90 points.

Arnaldo Caprai 2003 Sagrantino di Montefalco 25 Anni, Italy (\$110) Racy, dense and beautifully complex, with searing acidity, chocolate-coffee-blackberry flavors, and mint, orange peel and spice tones. 97 points.



Falcor 2003 Chardonnay, Genny's Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$35) Dark and dense with sweet oak and lovely, luscious fruit; Ray Coursen (of Elyse) is the winemaker. 90 points.



Edward Sellers 2004 Cuvée des Cinq, Paso Robles (\$42) The "five" are Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, Counoise and Cinsault; dense and juicy with ripe, sweet berry fruit and luscious flavors. 91 points.

Talbott 2002 Chardonnay, Diamond T Estate, Monterey (\$55) Like all the Talbott Chardonnays, big and ripe with intense oak and spice wrapped around rich pear fruit; long, deep and stylish. 89 points.



Pine Ridge 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville (\$75) Long, dense, stylish and balanced. 92 points.