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Subject: Italian Wine Tasting
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To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

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Good Evening,

Check us out Friday night! We are tasting Italian Reds, from Montepulciano and beyond. This should prove to be an interesting tasting. Come on down and bring your friends!

Our Special Entree: Gourmet Egg Plant Parmesan, Caesar Salad and Baguette \$12

When: Friday, September 25th

Time: 4-8 P.M.

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro

Cost: Full pour \$20 Half Pour \$12

The Wines:

2011 Torre dei Beati Montepulciano d' "Abruzzo "Cocciapazza" \$34.50

Good full medium ruby. Pure, high-pitched aromas of black fruits, cocoa, ink, licorice and dried herbs. Less sweet and deep than the 2011 Cocciapazza, showing tightly wound, pure but essentially simple flavors of crushed dark berries, licorice and minerals. An easygoing, gently tannic wine with a long, clean finish. 90 Points Vinous

2010 La Valentina Montepulciano d' Abruzzo "Spelt" \$21.50

Good dark ruby. Enticing scents of crushed blackberry, licorice and spices, plus a whiff of flint. Broad and pliant, with perfumed dark berry, licorice and flint flavors spreading out to coat the palate. Finishes smooth and long, with complex notes of pepper and herbs. This is much more refined than past vintages, which were too ripe and sweetly oaky. 92 Points Vinous

2010 Podermuovo A Palazzone Therra \$22

The 2010 Therra, on the other hand, immediately spells out a bouquet that is both focused and elegant. These two vintages represent two sides of the same coin. The blend components are the

represent two sides of the same coin. The blend components are the same as are the percentages of each variety used. But the bouquet veers in a completely new direction: Instead of ripe fruit you get a dollop of exotic spice and savory cured meat. The mouthfeel is also very different compared to 2009. This wine presents a precise acidity component backed by firmly polished tannins. The 2010 vintage is built for longer cellar aging. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2025. **91+ Points Robert Parker**

Located near the sleepy village of Palazzone in San Casciano dei Bagni in Siena province, Podernuovo al Palazzone is the new property recently inaugurated by father and son team Paolo and Giovanni Bulgari, heir to the jewelry empire. The 2009 vintage marks this estate-s debut.

2011 Podere San Giovanni Vino Nobile \$18

Traditional Vino Nobile. Well, what does that mean exactly? It means using traditional varietals, aging in older large oak casks (“in botte” for you wine geeks) Straightforward and slightly rustic, with notes of ripe berry fruit and just a hint of dusty spice, this is the kind of wine that offers something for palates of all persuasions. A blend of 90% Prugnolo Gentile (the name for Sangiovese in Montepulciano) with Italian-indigenous varietals Cannaiolo and Mammolo also added to the mix. A Delicious Value!

2012 La valentine Montepulciano d’ Abruzzo, Italy \$14

" Fascinating aromas of dried fruits, orange peel, earth, pomace and meat. Full body with soft and tangy fruit plus a long, flavorful finish. It's decadent and citrusy on the finish besides the opulent and delicious red fruits. "

92 Points James Suckling

2013 Pio Cesare Barbera d’ Alba \$20

The Barbera grapes grown in the Barolo area give full structure, plummy and complex flavor, with spicy and ripe fruit, blackberry aroma and a hint of toasted tobacco. It ages quite well.

"This shows a wonderful character of blueberries and milk

chocolate. Full body with loads of flavor and a bright finish. This is a big improvement for this wine. About 25% new French oak used in barrel aging. Drink now." 90 Points James Suckling

Cheers!

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