



Press release

Sierre, November 19th 2020

Mondial du Merlot & Assemblages: Ticino takes nearly all Special Prizes

The 13th edition of the Mondial du Merlot & Assemblages competition took place in Sierre from September 4th - 6th with a record-beating number of entries (511 wines from 16 countries), and Ticino taking 8 of the 11 Special Prizes.

The tasting sessions for the Mondial du Merlot & Assemblages competition took place in Sierre from September 4th – 6th, 2020. The 25 judges awarded 139 medals including 3 Grand Gold, 67 Gold and 69 Silver. The awards ceremony scheduled to be held in Zermatt on December 11th has been cancelled because of the pandemic.

Ticino sweeps the board

Ticino is the leading canton when it comes to Swiss Merlot, as evidenced by the fact that all three places in the Gran Maestro category went to Ticino wines. In first place was Gialdi's l'Arzo (2017, 2016 and 2015), followed in second place by Ronco (2018, 2017 and 2016) from Azienda Agraria Cantonale di Mezzana. In third place was Delea's Carato Riserva, with their 2017, 2016 and 2015 vintages.

Merlots can age extremely well

Regarding the other Special Prizes, a very special mention goes to Azienda Agraria Cantonale di Mezzana and – once again – their Ronco : this time it was their 2013 vintage which took not only Best Wine in Show, but also Best Older Vintage, the Vinofed Prize for Best Dry Wine, and Best Swiss Merlot.

Ticino also excelled with its white Merlot wines: Cherubino 2019 (Fratelli Matasci) took first place in the Rosé and Blancs de Noirs category.

The only award-winning Swiss wine *not* from Ticino was the 2017 Merlot-Cabernet Sauvignon blend from Domaine la Capitaine in Begnins (VD); this famous blue bottle took the Best Blend in Show and Best Organic Wine awards.

The Best Foreign Merlot prize was awarded to Alma Cersus (Languedoc, France) for their Merlot 2019 Baron du Capiscol.

All the results can be found at www.mondial-du-merlot.com.

The results brochure and notes about the Special Prize winners can be found in the attached document.

For further information:

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VINEA is a multidisciplinary association specialised in the organisation of wine competitions, including the Grand Prix du Vin Suisse, the Mondial des Pinots and the Mondial du Merlot et Assemblages, but also in the organisation of events and initiatives designed to promote Swiss wines, such as VINEA Le Salon (Swiss Wine Fair) and VINEA On Tour. For further information, see www.vinea.ch