

PRESS RELEASE

Donnafugata in Guida Veronelli

To the Sicilian estate, 2 Super Three Blue Stars for Mille e una Notte, Ben Ryé.

The Guide Oro Veronelli, which rate Italian wines, restaurants and hotels, respectively, were presented Monday afternoon, November 22, in the impressive setting of the Grand Hotel Parco dei Principi in Rome.

The assessment of the wines of the Donnafugata estate by "I vini di Veronelli **2005**" represented a significant success. The estate received two top awards out of the six conferred on Sicilian wines.

Super Three Blue Stars—attributed by the guide "to a single vintage of a wine already at the peak of the ratings in preceding editions to which the authors accorded an evaluation of more than 91 points—went to the red Mille e una Notte 2001 and to Passito di Pantelleria Ben Ryé 2003, both classified with 93 points.

The first is a Nero d'Avola Contessa Entellina DOC that the prestigious guide compiled by **Gigi Brozzoni** and **Daniel Thomases**, under the supervision of Luigi Veronelli, described literally as a "dream wine that is truly good and enveloping." The second, the raisin wine from Pantelleria, has decisively enthused tasters. In particular, Brozzoni wrote in reference to Ben Ryé that "it's not possible for a wine to be more integral, delicious and elegant."

"We are truly proud," said Josè Rallo, the estate's owner, "that these wines have obtained maximum recognition. We are committed to a production philosophy that is focused on constant improvement. And it finds in the territory its strongest motives. Because of the ratings, the **Contessa Entellina** in the Belice Valley and the island of **Pantelleria** stand out once more as two zones of extraordinary value for Sicilian winemaking."

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