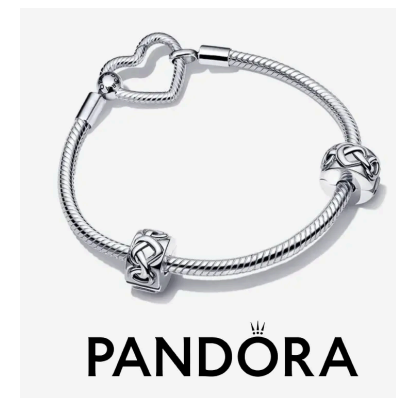




# MONTENAPO *Daily*



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**Berlucchi Palazzo Lana Extrême 2009, the son of the vineyard below the house**



## Donnafugata Opera Unica 2018, an exception that confirms the rule

**A breath of spring from Donnafugata with the new Opera Unica 2018, a surprising Chardonnay, the result of unusual climatic conditions. A small, high-quality production in full compliance with the company's sartorial style and open to innovation**

di Staff | April 3 2024

Donnafugata greets spring with the Chardonnay Opera Unica 2018: from the countryside of Western Sicily an unrepeatable wine, with a very particular organoleptic profile, the result of rare climatic circumstances and a sartorial interpretation.

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Opera Unica is the legacy of an unusual harvest on the Contessa Entellina estate, which has never been repeated since 2018. The intense rainfall recorded around mid-August in a Chardonnay vineyard bordered by the Senore stream had made harvesting impossible at that time; the singular conditions of temperature and humidity then favored the appearance of the noble form of *botrytis cinerea* on the bunches. In the first days of September the company decides to harvest those grapes and vinify them separately, cherishing the desire to create something special.

*"In the summer of 2018 we thought we had lost the production of that small vineyard. - declares **Antonio Rallo**, winemaker of the family business – Then instead we played with our imagination, taking on an unprecedented challenge for us: bringing out all the organoleptic potential that those grapes foreshadowed. The careful vinification and refinement in the bottle for over 4 years meant that the typical aromatic precursors of the botrytised grapes could reveal all their richness. Compared to the classic tropical or delicately toasted notes of our Chardonnays, Opera Unica has a very different, surprising style, just as we hoped. The bouquet is extraordinarily broad, on the palate it has great depth and a freshness that you don't expect."*



A flower that blooms in adversity: this chardonnay is a rarity that creates beauty and takes its name from a first *Unique work*, marketed in the 80s by Giacomo Rallo and his wife Gabriella, the visionaries who started the Donnafugata adventure. Today as then, every detail tells the personality of a wine that does not accept compromises, not even in the edition of just 6.574 bottles.

With golden and coppery reflections, Opera Unica amazes with its hints of ripe yellow pulp fruit, candied citrus fruits, saffron, ginger, chestnut honey and beeswax; in the mouth it is a dry wine, with a marked acidity and a pleasantly savory finish. A wine with many pieces that ultimately make up a mosaic of harmony and elegance. It goes well with sushi, semi-mature cheeses, mushroom dishes and white meats.

*"This Chardonnay is the reflection of a craftsmanship always open to innovation, to express the best from all vineyards. - highlights **Jose Rallo**, leading the company together with his brother Antonio – Each year therefore brings new challenges; in 2018 the grapes harvested in that vineyard were an exception on which we wanted to dare, and which then turned out to be the premise of another small quality production in full compliance with the values of Donnafugata. An absolute novelty that promises great emotions for enthusiasts and collectors."*

Her *uniqueness* it also passes through the label, signed by the hand of Stefano Vitale: suggestions *Klimtian*, with floral and geometric references, they form the backdrop to a woman

mysteriously wrapped in a cloak rich in colors and decorations, which symbolically celebrate the organoleptic richness of thisOpera.



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DONNAFUGATA

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