

VINTNERS CLUB

a California non-profit public-benefit corporation
(founded in 1971)

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TASTING #1,476 - "SUPER TUSCANS" FROM BOLGHERI & SUPERB CABERNETS FROM NAPA

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 30, 2008

at

The Carnelian Room, located on the 52nd floor of the Bank of America Building
555 California Street, San Francisco

The Bolgheri region of Italy is home to some of the finest wines in the world--- *Sassicaia*, made by the Marchesi Incisa della Rochetta, *Ornellaia* made by the Marchesi Frescobaldi, and *Camarcanda* made by Italy's legendary Angelo Gaja. In this part of Tuscany, one finds breath-taking, south-facing, sloping coastal vineyards which produce exceptional grapes and magnificent claret-style wines even in difficult vintages. Aptly described as "Super Tuscans", these Bordeaux-style blends are in great demand and fetch stratospheric prices.

Following more than 20 years of experimentation, *Sassicaia* was first offered on the open market in 1968. It is made from low-yielding vines originally planted with cuttings from the Château Lafite-Rothschild estate. *Ornellaia* (a Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petite Verdot blend), is an equally beguiling blockbuster. This is no surprise to long-standing Vintners Club members as inspiration for *Ornellaia* came not just from Bordeaux, but from one of the founding members of the Vintners Club--- André Tchelistcheff, an internationally-renowned authority on Cabernets and co-author of Chapter VI in the 1988 edition of the highly-influential Vintners Club "bible".

We will have a rare opportunity to compare and contrast these "Super Tuscans" with some of their *superb* Napa Valley counter-parts (costs can exceed \$225/bottle) when we taste them *in blind-conditions*.

Tenuta San Guido, *Sassicaia*, Bolgheri
Shafer Vineyards, *Hillside Select*, Stags Leap District, Napa Valley
Tenuta dell'Ornellaia, *Ornellaia*, Bolgheri
Corison Winery, *Kronos Vineyard*, Napa Valley
Gaja, Ca' Marcanda Estate, *Camarcanda*, Bolgheri
Cosentino Winery, CE2V Cabernet Sauvignon, "Secret Clone", Yountville, Napa Valley
Howell at the Moon, Cabernet Sauvignon, Howell Mountain, Napa Valley
Kendall-Jackson Vineyards, *Stature*, Napa Valley
Alpha Omega, Proprietary Red Wine, Napa Valley
V Madrone Cabernet Sauvignon, St. Helena, Napa Valley
Volker Eisele, *Terzetto*, Napa Valley
Von Strasser, *Post Vineyard* Cabernet Sauvignon, Diamond Mountain District, Napa Valley

A separate glass for each wine (TWELVE glasses for TWELVE wines) allows us to appreciate their nuances side-by-side and experience their evolution as the evening progresses. ***Comfortable seating*** (no long lines or jostling) allows us to enjoy these oft-unattainable wines in a spectacular location and in the company of fellow wine enthusiasts.

PRICE: \$175/member; \$225/non-member.

TO PAY: Please fax your Visa/Mastercard information to the Vintners Club at (415) 381-4460. Remember to call the Vintners Club at (415) 381-4467 to confirm seat availability as tastings routinely are SELL OUTS.

Deadline to cancel a reservation and be entitled to receive a refund is 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 25.