

Reviews of 2007 Barolo Serralunga

Barolo reviews, part 3

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November 29, 2011 By Gregory Dal Piaz

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Following the two previous articles on **Barolo** and **La Morra**, I am wrapping up my reviews of 2007 Barolo today with the wines from Serralunga, which are typically among my favorite wines of the region. 2007 has proven to be no different (read my take on the vintage as a whole: **Don't Believe the Hype**), though you may not be able to tell from the notes that follow.

Photo courtesy **Blue Moon in Her Eyes** via Flickr/CC

The truth is, while Serralunga can produce some profound wines, many of the best do not make it into this tasting and even those that do are limited by Serralunga's character.

That character, medicinal, austere, reticent and certainly not fruit dependent, allows the wines of Serralunga to excel in years when the fruit is somehow less than perfect, though there is a penalty to be paid in the early years. Without that young fruit, that baby fat that the other communes of Barolo benefit from, Serralunga's wines appear stern and sometimes downright mean in their youth. But with patience, the magic happens, and sometimes one gets a glimpse of that greatness.

These notes come from a large tasting I attend each year called Nebbiolo Prima. The following list of wines was tasted over a four-hour span one morning, so please take them with a grain of salt. My impressions are brief and my scoring simplified to a 10-point scale. Included in the tasting were several multi-commune blends, as well as wines from some lesser-known appellations.

Vietti Lazaritto Serraluga - soft dark fruit, spicy, more oak than fruit in the glass, flat on entry, loose in the mouth, nice small core of spicy dried strawberry fruit, firms up a bit on the back end, noticeably spicy, nice dry finish, a bit hot, some nice mineral and earth on the finale 6