



90 2006 Vietti Barbera d'Asti La Crena

Full, deep ruby-red. The aromas of blackberry, graphite, milk chocolate and licorice reminded me a bit of cabernet. Then large-scaled and sweet in the mouth, with a slight alcoholic warmth and a note of dark chocolate; almost Barolo-like in its sheer scale. A rather extreme style, outsized for barbera but leavened somewhat by strong acidity. Finishes with big, broad tannins that saturate the mouth. This aged for nearly two years in barrel and then received another year of aging prior to being released. - *Stephen Tanzer*

91 2005 Vietti Barolo Castiglione

Good medium red. Musky aromas of redcurrant, game, menthol, dried flowers, licorice and chestnut. Suave, velvety and dense, with lovely sweetness to its berry and licorice flavors. Ripe acidity contributes to the impression of inner-mouth perfume. Finishes with broad tannins that saturate the palate and teeth. "We consider our Perbacco nebbiolo to be our base Barolo, not this wine," notes Luca Currado.
- *Stephen Tanzer*

91 2006 Vietti Barolo Castiglione

Good full red. Reticent, pure nose offers menthol, licorice and brown spices. Suave and silky but at the same time juicy, delineated and deep, with lovely lift to the flavors of red fruits, spices and menthol. A round and complex wine finishing with broad, building tannins that coat the teeth. An impressive showing for this bottling. - *Stephen Tanzer*



91 2005 Vietti Barbaresco Masseria

Good deep red-ruby. Currant, blackberry, graphite and dried flowers on the nose. Juicy, spicy and savory, with lovely violet lift giving definition to the middle palate. Quite tightly wound on the back end, finishing with rather powerful tannins for Barbaresco. In fact, "this wine is vinified and aged like our Barolos," notes Currado. Built to last. - *Stephen Tanzer*

92 2006 Vietti Barbaresco Masseria

Good deep red. Medicinal cherry and violet on the nose, with a hint of nuts. Sweet and fresh, with excellent inner-mouth energy and floral lift. But this also boasts an opulent texture, with the sweet tannins arriving late. I find this softer than the 2005 version, but again these tannins reminded me of a Barolo. - *Stephen Tanzer*



96 2006 Vietti Barolo Rocche

Good deep red. Classic perfumed Barolo nose combines redcurrant, cherry, dried flowers and brown spices, with a brooding medicinal element adding complexity. Then deep, chewy and sweet, showing an utterly seamless, silky texture and captivating minerality. This has the suavity of texture of a grand cru, and even more flesh to buffer its round tannins than the 2005 bottling. The whiplash of a finish is like a second-stage booster rocket. This one really calls for, and will reward, extended cellaring. - *Stephen Tanzer*



95 2006 Vietti Barolo Brunate

Good medium red. Perfumed aromas of camphor, brown spices and menthol. Silky-sweet and aromatic in the mouth, with lovely class and a light touch for a wine with such a plush texture, no doubt due to a mineral element that reminded me of Musigny. Very intensely flavored, suave Brunate with an impressive rising finish. A superb showing: this has the structure for a slow evolution in bottle but the complexity to give it considerable early appeal. - *Stephen Tanzer*



93 2006 Vietti Barolo Lazzarito

Good full red. Cherry, marzipan, chestnut and nutty oak on the nose. At once sweet and powerful, with excellent energy and power to the mineral and menthol flavors. Less refined than the Brunate but also much less open to inspection today. The long, mounting finish conveys a strong impression of energy. - *Stephen Tanzer*



95 2005 Vietti Barolo Lazzarito

Good medium red. Knockout nose combines redcurrant, chestnut, marzipan, minerals and menthol. Thick on entry, then broad and voluminous in the mid-palate, but with uncanny definition and lift giving the wine an almost weightless quality. Berry, mint and violet flavors saturate the entire palate. Finishes with a boatload of sweet tannins and outstanding persistence.

- Stephen Tanzer



94 2005 Vietti Barolo Rocche

Good deep red. Musky, wild aromas of redcurrant, cherry and game. Silky on entry, then concentrated and subtly sweet in the middle, with an element of dried flowers contributing to the impression of lift. A classy, savory wine that's not at all overly sweet. There's something Burgundian about the wine's texture and flavor complexity but these serious, toothcoating tannins are strictly nebbiolo.

- Stephen Tanzer



92 2005 Vietti Barolo Brunate

Good full red. Restrained but complex nose hints at musky brown spices, tobacco, violet, minerals and smoke. Suave and silky on entry, then quite backward in the middle, with a serious spine currently dominating. Finishes with substantial tannic structure and a slight youthful dryness. I like this wine's light touch but it's most attractive today on the nose.

-Stephen Tanzer

