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WINE REVIEW

Reviewing the New Vintages of Amarone della Valpolicella from the Famiglie Storiche



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by Ian D'Agata

The Famiglie Storiche association now counts thirteen members. Altogether, this group accounts for around 22-23% of the total turnover of the denomination, managing around 800 hectares of vineyards dedicated to Amarone. The current President is Pierangelo Tommasi, who follows in the footsteps of Alberto Zenato; Tommasi's Vice-Presidents are Giuseppe Rizzardi and Luca Speri of the Guerrieri-Rizzardi and Speri wineries, respectively. The Famiglie Storiche is also owner of the Antica Bottega del Vino in Verona, a restaurant that is world-famous and that traces its roots back to the sixteenth century. It is an unmissable meeting point for epicures and sybarites that visit Verona from all over the world. Its management team is also headed by members of the association: the current President is Sabrina Tedeschi of the Tedeschi estate (and past-President of the Famiglie Storiche), who follows Tiziana Castagnedi in this prestigious post. Francesco Allegrini is Tedeschi's Vice-President, with Giacomo Boscaini and Antonio Cesari counsellors. Although the member wineries of the Famiglie Storiche are most associated with the production of high-quality Amarone, they produce all the typical wines of the Valpolicella area (and beyond, with many also bottling wines such as Lugana and Soave). Some of the most noteworthy Valpolicella wines and Recioto della Valpolicella of all are made by these estates.