



On March 3rd Gambero Rosso held its Three Glass (Tre Bicchieri) wine tasting in New York City. The event is the most important tasting of Italian wine in this country. Three glasses is the highest rating that a wine can receive. The awards are presented by Gambero Rosso/Slow Food, publishers of a number of wine, food and travel guides. Their annual wine guide is called Vini d'Italia in Italy. An English version, called Italian Wines 2008, was released to coincide with the grand tasting.

Each wine in the guide is given a score which assigns a rating from none to three glasses. This year there were 305 wines that received the top award and most of them were at the tasting. It is not surprising that Tuscany had the most Three Glasses wines (65) followed by Piedmont (61). Other wines from northern and central Italy picked up most of the rest. The biggest surprise to me was that Sicily received 15 of the top awards, the most of any Southern region. Two Sicilian wineries had wines of the year. It is an exciting and important wine event and always overcrowded because everyone with any interest in Italian wines wants to be there. There were many great wines at the tasting but the following were (among) my favorites:

Torgiano Rosso Vigna Monticchio Riserva 2003 DOCG Lungarotti (Umbria). This wine is better known as Rubesco. It is a wonderful wine that will last for many years.

I am going to Sicily for a week. When I return there will be a full report on Sicilian, wine, food and travel.

Charles Scicolone
Wine and Food Consultant



Chiara Lungarotti at the Gambero Rosso tasting with her Torgiano Rosso Rubesco Vigna Monticchio Riserva 2003 which was awarded the coveted "Three Glasses"

<http://www.i-italy.org/bloggers/1489/gambero-rosso-tre-bicchieri-tasting-2008>