




## Passopisciario, Franchetti 2008

 <p>Blend: 60% Petit Verdot, 40% Cesanese d’Affile</p> <p>Vineyard age: 6 years</p> <p>Vineyard area: 2 hectares</p> <p>Vineyard density: 12,300 vines/Ha</p> <p>Vineyard altitude: 1,000 m asl</p> <p>Yield per hectare: 20 Hl/Ha</p> <p>Fertilization: None</p> <p>Spraying: Propolis, grapefruit seed extract, sulphur, lime</p> <p>Vinification: Fermentation in 30hl steel vats for 15 days</p> <p>MLF: New French oak barriques for 4 months</p> <p>Aging: New French oak barriques for 18 months, at least 3 months in bottle</p> <p>Bottling: April 2010</p> <p>Production: 4,800 bottles</p>	<p><b>Franchetti</b> is a wine made of petit verdot and cesanese d’Affile, planted at 1,000 meters/3,300 feet above sea level. On Etna, due to the volcanic soil, petit verdot becomes more peppery and spicy, leaner and stiffer in body, with high aromatics. Cesanese d’Affile, a grape from Lazio, is a more gentle, aromatic counter to the structure of the petit verdot, although with great aging potential. The result is a concentrated wine, black like the lavic soil and plumes of smoke that Etna belches forth: <i>“This is the wine that comes from an attempt to make a completely different wine on Mt. Etna, to express what my image of Aetnean wine could be like.”</i></p> <p><b>2008 VINTAGE</b></p> <p>Viticulturally, the 2008 vintage started in 2007 when vines had reached the end of the November harvest unstressed from a tempered year and ready to enter the winter’s rest well nourished. There was then good hydration from repeated snowfalls on the mountain, and the hot three months of July, August and September were not able to stress the plants enough to halt the quick development through the growing and ripening stages. Some tiredness due to the dried-out soils came in October, but rains were already on the horizon and brought water in just the right quantity. We picked at the end of the month, and there were just enough berries on the vines this year to make this 40% cesanese d’Affile and 60% petit verdot blend.</p>
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