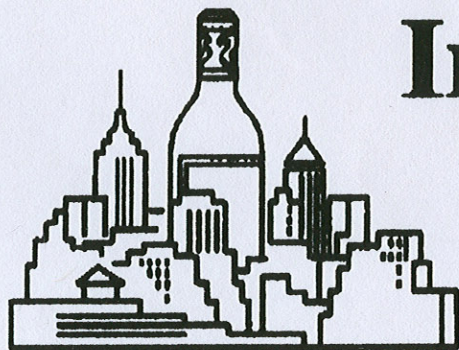


Stephen Tanzer's

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International Wine Cellar

the consumer's passport to fine wine

Passopisciario. 2002 Passopisciario (\$45): Deep red. Wonderfully pure aromas of ultraripe but not cooked red cherry, with complicating and attractive notes of cinnamon, nutmeg, white pepper, oolong tea and white chocolate. Very ripe and lush in the middle palate: leaves the mouth coated with a creamy layer of noble tannins. Made by cult winemaker Andrea Franchetti (of Le Cupole and Tenuta di Trinoro fame in Tuscany), this excellent wine is an unusual blend of nerello mascalese with a small percentage of cesanese d'Affile. 92. (T.Edward Wines Ltd., New York, NY)