

# IL PALAZZINO

Six miles south of Gaiole in Chianti, at an altitude of 400 meters above sea level, in what has long been known to the locals as "The Cru" of the Gaiole township, stretch the vineyards of Il Palazzino.

The Sderci family has owned the estate since mid-nineteenth century, but wine started being sold only in the Seventies when Alessandro and Andrea took up the management of the property.

As many other producer-friends with whom I have the pleasure of collaborating, Andrea and Alessandro are passionately involved in their work and always seeking means to improve their already superb wines. By scrupulously selecting their grapes at harvest time and pursuing the selection in the cellars, where only the finest barrels are reserved

for bottling, they have heightened to an almost exasperated degree the archetypal qualities that have distinguished Chianti Classico wines of Gaiole from the rest: finesse, warmth and richness, and a bouquet of exceptional wealth, pronouncedly reminiscent of raspberries, violets and the iris of Chianti.

Since 1981, hand selected Sangiovese from a vineyard next to the homestead, has yielded a special selection Chianti Classico called Grosso Sanese (formerly a proprietary wine) which has dominated blind tastings throughout the world.

Alessandro and Andrea also make other two Chianti Classico: Argenina and La Pieve (starting with the 2008 vintage only very small quantities of this wine will be bottled and only in outstanding vintages, the superior

juice from the vineyards blended into Argenina). Furthermore, starting with the 2008 vintage, Il Palazzino's Casina Girasole (an IGT/proprietary wine, mainly Sangiovese) will be substituted with Rosso del Palazzino, same wine, of course, but with a label in every way similar and identifiable with the rest of Il Palazzino's labels. Two more IGT/proprietary wines - Bertinga (the blend being Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot) and Stagi (100% Colorino) - and a Vin Santo, complete the range. The estate has been in the conversion phase for two years in order to obtain the certification for organic viticulture (it should be certified in 2011). ◇



## Rosso del Palazzino

Zone: *Monti in Chianti, Lecchi in Chianti*  
 Varietal: *80% Sangiovese, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Colorino*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *2 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *10,000-13,000 bottles*

## Chianti Classico Grosso Sanese

Zone: *Monti in Chianti*  
 Cru: *Grosso Sanese*  
 Varietal: *100% Sangiovese*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *2 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *9,000 bottles*

