

# GIOVANNI MANZONE

**W**ith Giovanni Manzone I am happy to be able to offer another superlative producer of Barolo, Dolcetto and Barbera. 4.3 hectares of the estate's vineyards lies in Le Gramolere, a cru I will not hesitate to call one of the greatest and most expressive of the Barolo appellation. Interestingly enough, if one excludes small quantities for local consumption, wine from this cru had never been bottled before the early nineties, but rather sold in bulk by the various growers to negotiants who gladly reinforced their blends with them. As a cru Le Gramolere yields a Barolo of extraordinary longevity - a characteristic usually associated with the wines from Serralunga. With forty hectolitres per hectare it also appears to yield among the lowest

production of the entire appellation, without need of grape thinning or excessively short pruning. This may help explain why Manzone's Barolo's concentrated silky raciness is backed by such a firm structure.

Both in bouquet and flavour, the character of this terroir expresses itself in a powerful reminiscence of currants and cherries which - unique in my experience - traverses the boundaries of grape varietal, affecting Barolo, Dolcetto and Barbera alike!

Depending on the given harvest, four distinct Baroli may be bottled: Le Gramolere, Bricat (produced from a strip of Le Gramolere vineyard owned exclusively by Giovanni Manzone, while Le Gramolere is owned by a couple of other estates), le Gramolere Riserva and Barolo Castelletto (2004 being the first

released vintage and made from vineyards in the zone of Castelletto). This intriguing display of "cru identity", moreover, is truly enhanced by the winemaking precision and integrity of Giovanni Manzone, whose exacting and critical palate has guided him unerringly towards the achievement of the highest quality. Last but not least this estate produces a tiny amount of most seductive barrel-fermented white wine from an obsolete varietal, Rossese Bianco and a Langhe Nebbiolo. ◇



## Barolo Le Gramolere

Zone: *Monforte d'Alba*  
 Cru: *Le Gramolere*  
 Varietal: *Nebbiolo*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *3 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *10,000 bottles*



## Dolcetto d'Alba La Serra

Zone: *Monforte d'Alba*  
 Cru: *La Serra*  
 Varietal: *Dolcetto*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *1.3 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *6,000 bottles*



## Barbera d'Alba Superiore La Serra

Zone: *Monforte d'Alba*  
 Cru: *La Serra*  
 Varietal: *Barbera*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *0.5 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *2,500 bottles*