

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ.com

JULY 22, 2011, 5:11 PM ET

Sicily's Greatest Hits

Some of the most interesting Italian wines are actually made on the island of Sicily.

Not long ago, this would have been an entirely implausible statement save for a producer or three.

Once dominated by huge cooperatives turning out industrial plonk and big brands like Corvo, Sicily is now home to quite a few top producers turning out exemplary stuff from native varietals, such as Nero d'Avola and Nerello Mascalese.

Top names include Regaleali, Planeta, Donnafugata and COS — and up-and-coming stars like Arianna Occhipinti, who is only in her twenties, but has already made a name for herself.

One of my favorite sources of Sicilian wine in New York are the three West Village restaurants run by Joe Campanale: dell'Anima, L'Artusi and Anfora.

As the beverage director for all three locations, Mr. Campanale has put together lists that are wide ranging but include quite a few some of Sicily's greatest hits, including the producers above.

So when [fashion designer Nanette Lepore](#) returned from her vacation in Sicily I proposed getting together at dell'Anima to taste- and talk- about Sicilian wine, fashion and some of the places she'd visited and the people she'd seen.

My top picks from the dell'Anima, L'Artusi and Anfora lists:

200 Murgo Brut Rose; 2008 COS Nero d'Avola Nero di Lupa, 2009 Occhipinti SP 68 Bianco and the 2005 Hauner Malvasia di Lipari.



Lettie Teague

Joe Campanale, beverage director of Dell'Anima and Nanette Lepore, fashion designer.

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