

# Decanter

PASSIONATE ABOUT WINE SINCE 1975

JANUARY 2023

## Burgundy 2021

Must-buy new releases & our view on the vintage

## Best bag in box

They've come a very long way from student parties

## Tasted & rated

Roussillon whites  
Douro reds

# WINES — OF THE — YEAR

Simply the best: the greatest wines  
we've tasted in the last 12 months

+  
**400**  
wines tasted  
in this issue

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FUTURE



## SICILY'S MO FARAH JAMES BUTTON

'I am one of the few who doesn't make single-contrada wine,' said Federico Graziani, former AIS best Italian sommelier (1998) and proprietor of Etna estate **Fedegraziani**, whose first vintage was 2010. 'I'm not Sicilian but I fell in love with this terroir.' At a tasting of his small range of wines organised by UK importers Oeno in October, he explained that 'I like the idea of wine with good, nervy acidity', adding that he harvests slightly before full phenolic maturity in order to create his distinctly elegant style, and works solely with Sicily's distinct alberello (bush vines). 'You don't have a wall of leaves, we can demand just 1kg-1.5kg per plant... this is very important for balance and harmony.'

The **Profumo di Vulcano 2019** (£72 Tannico) is from two centenarian plots at 600m in Passopisciaro, vinified separately since 2018 in steel before blending and oak ageing for a minimum of 24 months in tonneaux. A blend of Nerello Mascalese, Nerello Cappuccio, Alicante and Francisi, it features delicate balsamic red and black cherry and underbrush scents and flavours with a stony mid-palate, very fine and silky tannins and a juicy finish. 'I produce my wines as a marathon runner, not a sprinter: all bones; skinny,' concluded Federico. **D**