

DECEMBER 15, 2008

WINE SPECTATOR "AWARDS"

AZIENDA AGRICOLA PIETRO RINALDI Madonna di Como - Alba

LANGHE ARNEIS doc Vigne di Hortensia 2007 - 86 *

MOSCATO D'ASTI docg D'Ampess 2007 - 84

90 **Pietro Rinaldi Barbaresco Vigna San Cristoforo 2005 \$48** Velvety, rich and round, with lots of ripe tannins and ripe fruit that has an almost strawberry jam character to it. Needs a couple of years to come together. Best after 2011. 500 cases made.—J.S.

88 **Pietro Rinaldi Nebbiolo Langhe Argante 2006 \$38** Shows berry and cherry aromas, with a hint of vanilla. Medium-bodied, with silky tannins and a medium finish. Offers a solid core of pretty fruit. Impressive. Drink now. 500 cases made.—J.S.

87 **Pietro Rinaldi Dolcetto d'Alba Madonna di Como 2007 \$22** A clean, well-balanced Dolcetto, with fresh berry and black grape notes. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins and a crisp finish, leaving a hint of chocolate. Drink now. 1,000 cases made.—J.S.

87 **Pietro Rinaldi Barbera d'Alba Superiore Bricco Cichetta 2007 \$35** Damson and grape aromas and flavors, with hints of mineral, follow through to a full body, with a round texture and a flavorful finish. There's also a bitter coffee character. Drink now. 450 cases made.—J.S.

87 **Pietro Rinaldi Barbera d'Alba Monpiano 2007 \$24** Offers a minerally nose, with hints of damson and blackberry. Medium-bodied, with a tight, minerally palate and a crisp finish. There's a lovely core of fruit, and this has balance as well. Drink now. 900 cases made.—J.S.

* The highest score in the history of this wine