

Edmonton Gentlemen's Dinner Club

October 3, 2011

Wine Pairings

Poached Alberta Pickerel / Basque Style Seafood Stew

2006 Chateau Prince Anjou Blanc Les Ardoisieres
Loire Valley, France (\$23, 15% Alc., 100% Chenin Blanc)

This wine has a beautiful amber colour. A hint of fresh raisins on the nose. Prunes and figs make an appearance on the palate alongside freshness, oiliness and refreshing acidity. A great choice for pairing with fish.

Grilled Corn Salad / Micro Sprouts / Bacon Vinaigrette / Tomme de Savoie

2010 Raventos i Blanc Perfum
Penedes, Spain (\$25, 11.5% Alc., predominately Macabeo, with a touch of Muscat)

Colour of yellow steely fruit. A nose of fresh grapes, perfume, peach: roses stand out. The wine is bone dry and tart with an extremely olfactory palate. Jancis Robinson calls it the Cinderella Grape. Not well known outside its growing region of northeast Spain. Muscat is added to enhance the nose and give the wine its perfume identity.

*Mushroom rubbed veal chop / Golden Chanterelles / Lyonnaise Potatoes
Glace de Viande*

2004 Villa Cafaggio Cortaccio
Tuscany, Italy (\$60, 14% Alc., Cabernet Sauvignon)

Taken from the Wine Advocate, Rating:93
The 2004 Cortaccio is gorgeous. An array of dark fruit, wild herbs, blackberries, spices and toasted oak flow from this layered and complex wine. Though voluptuous and soft, there is enough tannic backbone lurking below the fruit to guarantee another decade-plus of very fine drinking. Cortaccio is Cabernet Sauvignon aged in French oak. The vineyards are in Panzano.

Red Wine Dark Chocolate Truffle Tart / Cayenne Whipped Cream

Seppelt DP38 Oloroso
Barossa Valley, Australia (\$25, 21% Alc.)

Deep amber-brown colour. The nose is raisined fruit, hints of leather, and rancio (which means rancid in Spanish and is used to describe the browning effect and nutty taste wine takes on when purposefully exposed to air during aging). The palate is rich and profound with an initial nutty, honeyed sweetness that evolves into drier rancio finish before moving into an extremely long, dry finish.

The Wine Spectator Rating:89 Dark, almost amber in colour, with scents of orange peel, almond, cinnamon and sandalwood spinning through the soft finish.