



The respekt-BIODYN Vintner's Association to Celebrate 10 Year Anniversary  
**Ten years ago, twelve leading wineries from Austria and Italy formed a collective in order to find more individuality in wine. Today, the respekt-BIODYN group consists of twenty-two top producers, including five in Germany. Their wines stand for the pursuit of the highest quality through modern biodynamic winemaking.**

Vienna, 14 December, 2017

"Back in 2005, twelve of us were looking for more individuality in wine because we had reached our limits with conventional winemaking methods. Although very successful, we were still not at our peak in terms of quality. It then quickly became quite clear that we had to go down the path of biodynamics, so we called in consultants and changed our way of doing business. In 2007, we finally founded respekt. It was the best decision we could have made. The quality of our soils and our wines today are the best proof of this" is how respekt chairman Michael Goëss-Enzenberg, of the Manincor winery in South Tyrol, explains the changes that twenty-two wineries in Austria, Germany, Italy, and Hungary have undergone in the meantime.

The national and international trade press confirms the commitment of respekt-BIODYN to even more quality and individuality in wine. Whenever awards and prizes are given out, members of the group are always at the forefront. Just as they were in the recent awards presentation for the red wine guide of the Austrian magazine Falstaff: The overall red wine winner of the year award went to Hans & Anita Nittnaus, Paul Achs won the red wine Grand Prix and first place in the Zweigelt category, and all three Pinot Noir prizes were also awarded to respekt vintners, namely Karl Fritsch, Fritz Wieninger, and Fred Loimer. The "Premio d' Eccellenza" of the Italian sommelier association AIS went this year to the South Tyrolean Manincor winery, and international top ratings were also given to all the German wineries.

**The association is growing.** Founded in 2007 by twelve members, three additional producers joined the association in 2009. In 2015, the four wineries of the traditional German winegrowers' association "VDP, the Prädikatsweingüter" (Busch, Christmann, Rebholz and Wittmann) followed suit. Since 2016, respekt-BIODYN has consisted of twenty-two wineries, with the addition of Dr. Wehrheim (also VDP), Hajszan Neumann, and Herbert Zillinger.



**Image and guidelines.** In 2015 the overall image of the association, including its name and logo, was redesigned, and in 2016 the production and cellaring guidelines for the four wine categories "white wine," "red wine," "sparkling wine," and "natural wine" were completely revised and defined even more rigorously, without any room for interpretation. The group unifies their internal exchanges and the striving for the "ideal wine" according to Rudolf Steiner's biodynamic guidelines – translated into the modern era.

**The association.** respekt-BIODYN is a biodynamic association with the aim of producing outstanding wines with the highest possible individuality. respekt-BIODYN is based in Austria and has twenty-two members from Germany, Italy, Austria, and Hungary. The association was founded in 2007.

**The respekt member wineries:** Paul Achs, Judith Beck, Busch, Christmann, Feiler-Artinger, Fritsch, Manincor, Gsellmann, Hajszan Neumann, Gernot & Heike Heinrich, Hirsch, Loimer, Anita & Hans Nittnaus, Ott, Gerhard & Brigitte Pittnauer, Claus Preisinger, Ökonomierat Rebholz, Dr. Wehrheim, Weninger, Wieninger, Wittmann, Herbert & Carmen Zillinger

Printable photos in the attachments. For ©, see the respective captions. Printing is free of charge with attribution. Thank you for your reporting.

#### **2018 Tasting Dates WITH respekt-BIODYN - invitations to follow**

1. **ProWein** in Düsseldorf: "respekt-BIODYN and organic & biodynamic winemaking friends – sustainably successful!" on Saturday, 17 March, from 13:30 to 19:00 at Industrieclub Düsseldorf. Press conference at 13:30.
2. **VieVinum** in Vienna: "Tasting with Respekt" on Saturday 9 June, from 11:30 to 12:45 in the Schatzkammer Hall at the trade fair.
3. **respekt Germany at Cordobar** in Berlin: first week of September.
4. **respekt Retreat** in the Munich area: "Tasting with Respekt" on Sunday 2 December.

**respekt-BIODYN**

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