



Biodynamic wines on the rise internationally

The respekt-BIODYN winemakers association looks back on a successful 2018, rejoices over international best ratings, and is planning extensive activities for 2019.

Vienna, 8 January 2019

A total of eighteen wines from respekt-BIODYN wineries are among the respective top 100 wines of Germany, Austria, and Italy in 2018 according to James Suckling, publisher of jamesuckling.com, one of the most renowned online American wine magazines with around 600,000 readers worldwide. In Germany, the Christmann, Ökonomierat Rebholz, Dr. Wehrheim and Wittmann wineries, in Italy Manincor, and in Austria the Fritsch, Hajszan Neumann, Hirsch, Loimer, Ott, Wieninger and Herbert Zillinger wineries all scored. All these wines were produced according to the strict biodynamic guidelines of the group.

These ecological production methods are increasingly appreciated by wine lovers worldwide, says Stuart Pigott, an expert at James Suckling, who reports: "Biodynamic wines enjoy a high reputation in the USA, and are much sought after in upscale gastronomy and in the high-end specialist trade". He believes that their relevance will increase even further in the future. In addition to the top ratings from Suckling, this trend has been confirmed by numerous other national and international awards for the 23 respekt wineries. For example, the German magazine *Vinum* ranked one wine each from the Johannes Hirsch, Fred Loimer and Fritz Wieninger wineries among the best 100 wines of the year. Franz Reinhard Weninger had the best red wine in Austria according to Gault&Millau, and was also honoured by the Republic of Austria for his competence in climate protection. This year, the association's climate protection activities will also be defined as a whole and incorporated into their general strategy.

This year's respekt activities. Starting with a master class led by Master of Wine Romana Echensperger at ProWein in Düsseldorf, then the two-day respekt-Johanni (St. John's day celebration) on 23 and 24 June at Clemens Busch an der Mosel, the three-day respekt-Einkehr (retreat) from 1 to 3 December in southern Germany, and further educational seminars for as well non-members in the spring.

All the respekt wines in the James Suckling top 100 rankings, and more information about upcoming respekt events, can be found on Page 2 and 3.



The respekt wineries. Paul Achs, Judith Beck, Busch, Christmann, Feiler-Artinger, Fritsch, Martin & Georg Fusser, 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.

jamesuckling.com. James Suckling, former editor-in-chief of the American trade magazine Wine Spectator for many years, established his own medium in 2010 with jamesuckling.com. Together with his team, he tastes and rates around 10,000 wines a year according to a 100-point system, and his readership comes from 110 countries. Half of his approximately 600,000 website readers come from the USA, and together with his newsletters, social media activities, apps and other publications, James Suckling reaches around 4 million wine enthusiasts worldwide.

In the attachment are printable photos, © Manfred Klimek und Andreas Hofer. Printing free of charge with attribution. We thank you in advance for your reporting.

THE respekt-WINES ACCORDING TO JAMES SUCKLING

Top 100 German Wines

- Place 2 Riesling Irding Großes Gewächs 2017, Christmann
(Place 14, Top 100 Wines worldwide)
- Place 4 Riesling Morstein Großes Gewächs 2017, Wittmann
(Place 62, Top 100 Wines worldwide)
- Place 13 Riesling Kastanienbusch Großes Gewächs 2017, Dr. Wehrheim
- Place 27 Riesling Kastanienbusch Großes Gewächs 2017, Ökonomierat Rebholz
- Place 71 Riesling Kirchspiel Großes Gewächs 2017, Wittmann
- Place 77 Riesling Bienengarten Erste Lage 2017, Ökonomierat Rebholz
- Place 90 Weißburgunder Muschelkalk, Ökonomierat Rebholz

Top 100 Italian Wines

- Place 95 Pinot Bianco Alto Adige Eichhorn 2016, Manincor

Top 100 Austrian Wines

- Place 14 Grüner Veltliner Ried Rosenberg 2017, Ott
- Place 15 Riesling Ried Gaisberg Erste Lage 2017, Hirsch
- Place 25 Pinot Noir Grand Select 2015, Wieninger
- Place 32 Gemischter Satz Ried Rosengartl Erste Lage Nussberg 2017, Wieninger
- Place 44 Riesling Ried Mordthal Erste Lage 2017, Fritsch
- Place 56 Grüner Veltliner Ried Mordthal Erste Lage 2017, Fritsch
- Place 58 Riesling Ried Steinmassl Erste Lage 2017, Loimer
- Place 65 Pinot Noir Niederösterreich Langenlois 2016, Loimer
- Place 69 Riesling Ried Steinberg Erste Lage 2017, Hajszan Neumann (Wieninger)
- Place 84 Grünen Veltliner Ried Vogelsang 2017, Herbert Zillinger



THE 2019 **respekt** EVENTS – SAVE THE DATES FOR THE PRESS

- Monday, 18 March, from 15:30 to 16:10. **Tasting with Respect at ProWein.** Master of Wine Romana Echensperger presents twelve **respekt** wines, in English. Location: ProWein Düsseldorf, at the Austrian Wine Marketing stand. **Registration** at info@respekt-biodyn.bio, with the subject: “ProWein Masterclass”.
- Sunday & Monday, 23 and 24 June, **respekt-Johanni** (St. John’s Day Celebration) at Clemens Busch an der Mosel: **Tasting with Respect** with Caro Maurer MW and Romana Echensperger MW, also vineyard hiking, and a St. John’s Day bonfire. **Registration** at info@respekt-biodyn.bio, with the subject: “respekt-Johanni”.
- Sunday, 1 December, 14:00. **Tasting with Respect** in the context of the annual **respekt-Einkehr** (retreat). Location: in the southern Germany or western Austria area, Info to follow. **Registration** at info@respekt-biodyn.bio, with the subject: “respekt-Einkehr”.

respekt-BIODYN

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