EMIDIO PEPE

Emidio Pepe receives the 2023 Golden Vines® Sustainability Award recognizing its inspired, industry-leading sustainability philosophy and practices

PRESS RELEASE
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On October 14th at *Opéra Garnier* in Paris, France, **Emidio Pepe** receives the prestigious **2023 Golden Vines® "Gucci Sustainability Award"** during a prize ceremony gathering internationally celebrated winemakers, professionals and connoisseurs. **Emidio Pepe** was selected by a panel of over 1,000 international wine professionals, 27 Masters of Wine and 22 Masters Sommeliers led by the chair and head judge **Adrian Garforth MW** together with Steve Matthiasson and Hervé Berland.
Third generation **Chiara de Iulis Pepe** accepted the award on behalf of the family owned and operated winery that has been pioneering sustainability practices since its creation nearly 60 years ago.

"The aim of the Gucci Golden Vines® Sustainability Award is to recognize and celebrate those wineries who are taking an industry-leading position in promoting and practicing sustainable business, in both the vineyard and beyond. Great wine is inherently the product of exceptional individuals working with outstanding terroir..."
-Golden Vines Award (continued below)

In selecting Emidio Pepe, the jury highlighted:

- The **historical commitment** and **profound understanding** of **land**, **farming** and **terroir** producing **unique**, **soulful** and **terroir-driven wines** that deliver a **sense of place**.
- A deeply rooted **philosophy** for over **60 years** of respecting **Nature's Rhythms** through **proper farming** as the **essential way** to elevate the **quality** of **both** their **wines** and **the planet**.
- The deep **connection** in between **place, people** and **plants** was the only **synergy** possible that would allow the estate to produce fruits that were getting closer to **Nature's ultimate harmony**.
- A **worldwide recognition** as precursors to **proper organic** and **biodynamic farming** that is a **testimony** to the **ability to produce timeless wines** with **immense aging potential** while being **sustainable**.
- A prescient **vision**, commitment and deliberate **action to face climate change**.

Some of **Emidio Pepe**'s **sustainability actions** and **commitments**:

- Implementing **biodiversity** through **crop rotation** and **Agroforestry**
- **Permanent coverage** of vineyard soil through cover crops or grass, drastically **reducing tillage**. This allowed a significant **CO_2 emissions reduction** and increase in **organic matter** quality & levels.
- Re-use of **rainwater** for treatments and irrigation of baby vines
- **Decreasing copper** and **sulfur** use by treating vines with **organic, unpasteurized milk**
- **Composting** all harvest and pruning residue, creating **organic matter** that **nourishes** the vines
- **Omnipresent Bee hives** all around the vineyards
- **Total refusal** of **any industrialized chemicals** since the **estate's creation over 60 years ago**

About the **Award from the Liquid Icons** *(cont'd from above)*:
The fundamental connection between people and place makes fine wine unique amongst alcoholic beverages. By making this connection ever more sustainable, while still producing an exceptional wine, wineries have an unprecedented opportunity to engage with their audiences, sharing their sustainability stories and achievements and in so doing become the 'sustainable drink of choice.

These commitments were ideally to be part of a long-term strategy, but as an annual Award, particular focus was given by the Judges to activities within the last 12 months.

The Judges examined each application in accordance with the following criteria:

- Measurable improvements in the environmental impact of vineyard and winery operations, addressing issues linked to natural resource use, water and waste management, increased biodiversity, which may extend to regenerative, organic or biodynamic farming practices;
- A demonstrable commitment towards social improvement both within the workforce and the surrounding community. Within this, recognition will also be given to any initiative supporting diversity within the industry;
- A clear reduction in the carbon footprint across all aspects of the business, both within direct winery operations, but also extending to the wider supply chain;
- New innovations and long-term investment in support of the above.

- END -

EMIDIO PEPE

THE GOLDEN VINES® AWARDS

LIQUID ICONS

GÉRARD BASSET FOUNDATION

For further information, quotes and interviews, please contact: **chiara@emidiopepe.com**

Additional resources:
emidiopepe.com
liquidicons.com/
liquidicons.com/the-2023-gucci-golden-vines-sustainability-award