

THE WASHINGTON MAGAZINE PANEL

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Lorena Vásquez, Master
Blender for Zacapa Rum.

A Passion for Perfection

*Zacapa Brings a New Wave of
Appreciation for Barrel-Aged Spirits*

**INSIDE:
OUR 2012
YEARBOOK**

Anthony Dias BLUE REVIEWS

Top choices for gift-giving this holiday season!

In each issue, Editor-in-Chief Anthony Dias Blue selects a wide range of the best wines and spirits from among the more than 500 he samples over the course of a month. The reviews are subjective editorial evaluations, made without regard to advertising, and products are scored on a 100-point scale:

85-89: VERY GOOD

90-94: OUTSTANDING

95-100: CLASSIC

Once products are selected for publication, producers and importers will be offered the option of having their review accompanied by an image (bottle photo or label art) for a nominal fee. There is no obligation to add an image, nor does the decision affect the review or score in any way.

The "twisty" icon indicates wines sealed with a screwcap closure. 

For additional Blue Reviews, go to www.tastingpanelmag.com.

WHITES

92 Schramsberg Vineyards 2004 Reserve, North Coast (\$110) Deep golden color; rich and ripe with juicy acidity and dense Pinot fruit; toasty, yeasty and rich with lovely acidity and a fine mousse; long and flavorful.

WILSON DANIELS



91 Freemark Abbey 2011 Viognier, Napa Valley (\$32) Creamy and lush with lovely smooth fruit and tangy acidity; bright and classic with superb balance, depth and style.

JACKSON FAMILY WINES

91 Talley Vineyards 2010 Chardonnay, Oliver's Vineyard, Edna Valley (\$32) Smooth and suave with lovely notes of vanilla and oak; fresh and juicy with depth and elegance; long and complex.

93 Billecart-Salmon NV Brut Rosé Champagne, France (\$212) Pale pink, juicy, smooth, ripe, and tangy with raspberry; lush and tangy with great depth; racy acidity and seamlessly balanced; lovely.

ROBERT CHADDERDON SELECTIONS

REDS

92 Merry Edwards 2010 Pinot Noir, Olivet Lane, Russian River Valley (\$62) Silky and feminine with elegant cherry fruit and firm acid structure; tangy, long and juicy; smooth and supple with style and grace.

93 Williams Selyem 2010 Pinot Noir, Weir Vineyard, Yorkville Highlands (\$58) Silky and crisp with lovely acid structure and bright cherry fruit; elegant and balanced with vivid flavors and fresh Burgundian style; tangy and long with focus and style.

94 Beni di Batasiolo 2004 Barolo Boscarello, Italy (\$75) Fragrant and aromatic; dense, juicy and youthful with rich plum, spice and deep berry fruit; long and complex, elegant and generous with a long finish.

BOISSET FAMILY ESTATES



92 Sequana 2010 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley (\$38) Lush and rich with sweet black cherry and smooth, silky texture; deep, ripe and balanced with juicy fruit and fine balance; long and lovely.

HESS FAMILY ESTATES

93 Trinchero 2009 Meritage, Napa Valley (\$43) Dark and rich with sweet, ripe plum, blackberry and spice box; satiny texture and lovely depth; concentrated and luscious with impressive style and finesse; long and seamless. This wine can stand with many much more costly bottlings.

TRINCHERO FAMILY ESTATES

