



Your Source of Wine for Every Occasion

## Notes From The Cellar "NFTC" Newsletter

Mar 10, 2010

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**2006 Mitolo GAM Shiraz 95 points for \$35 -no kidding !  
and a few very special bottles of their best ever 96-100 point 2003 ...**

*"For a winery only established in 1999, and dedicated to hand-crafted, artisanal wines, Mitolo has consistently been a revelation in my tastings. Thanks to owner Frank Mitolo and his brilliant winemaker, Ben Glaetzer, the quality has been truly splendid."* - **Robert Parker.**

There are some world class wines made in Australia today. At the top of the heap are about a dozen and a half wineries and wine makers that produce the truly great stuff. One thing that makes Australian Shiraz unique is a serious presence -the best wines also have great complexity and an amazing ability to age and improve for many years. Unfortunately the successes of the leading wines also brought a flood of imitators: from cheap wines with cute animal labels (AKA the Critter Wines) to over extracted over the top jammy examples ; with the theory that the bigger the wine the better. Distributors and Importers kept greedily raising prices and introducing a slew of new wines which flooded the market. So much so, that over the past few years there has been a back lash -oversupply and wines that were over the top eventually resulted in prices for the category to collapse.

The current softness in the premium market is starting to tighten up smart money has been scooping up the good stuff. Today I am happy to present some of the Mitolo wines at a price that not only is historically low but what I believe to be an incredible opportunity.

**\$\$\$ Today's Wine Deal \$\$\$**

# MITOLO GAM Shiraz McLaren Vale Australia 2006

**\$37-/bottle, or \$35-/ bottle- with our cash discount** (checks are ok)

Over the past 10 years or so Ben Glazer has become one of the most recognizable wines under his own label as well as Amon Ra have become iconic( in addition to making great wine, he is a fairly big guy and very engaging- so once you meet him he is easy to remember!). Ben was born with winemaker blood in his veins. His father Colin masterminded one of Australia's classic wines "E+E Black Pepper Shiraz".

One of his most recognizable projects is today's featured wine: When Ben partnered with Frank Mitolo the inaugural wine was the 2000 GAM McLaren Vale Shiraz which was lauded by Wine Spectator Magazine. By the time their second vintage (2001) received a 94 point score from Parker the wine started to attract a loyal following. This was the beginning of an amazing 7 years streak where the flagship wine the GAM has received scores in the mid 90's or better from Parker. These wines have now become legendary and are highly praised by collectors.



The 2006 vintage was the last of the highly rated streak I described above (the following vintage 2007 "only" got a respectable 91 point score). I was offered a special deal on a small stash of the 2006 and I am thrilled to offer them at the lowest price I have seen on this wine. Happy Hunting.

Father Colin & son Ben

## Collector's corner



**The best GAM ever. - when only the best will do! - In Perfect condition:** The highest rated Mitolo GAM ever made; the 2003 Vintage which got a **96-100 point** rating from Parker. This wine sold at \$185 and higher, once the rating were released. Perfectly stored for over 5 years since release: A very special opportunity. Rarely seen under \$100, while they last at **\$79/ bottle** (based on cash price) **-only 7 bottles available**

Robert Parker: *The spectacular, dense ruby/purple-colored 2003 Shiraz G. A. M. (named after the Mitolo family's three children) exhibits aromas of lead pencil shavings, blackberries, blueberries, cassis, licorice, new oak, and scorched earth. This complex 2003 comes across as a hypothetical blend of a great La Mission-Haut-Brion from Bordeaux and a Rhone Valley Hermitage such as Chapoutier's Pavillon. Everything is seamlessly integrated into this tour de force in winemaking. It should age for 10-15+ years. 96-100*

**points**

Thanks for all your support and referrals.

**Tell your friends, share the wine, & spread the good vibe. Cheers!**

*Paul David*, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

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