Manzone is one of Piedmont's greatest under the radar gems. The wines have been especially fine here for a number of years, and yet the estate's reputation has not caught up. Readers who appreciate fine, nervy Barolos will adore the 2018s. I was impressed, but I can no longer say surprised. Manzone remains one of the undiscovered gems. Wines have been especially brilliant of late.

Barolo Riserva Gramolere 2016

The 2016 Barolo Riserva Gramolere takes all the Gramolere signature and amplifies them, partly because of the richer vintage but also through a more extracted approach that also features a stronger oak imprint. Succulent dark cherry, plum, mocha, new leather and dried herbs are beautifully dialed up.





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Barolo Gramolere 2019

The 2019 Barolo Gramolere is a brilliant, classically austere wine that will delight readers who enjoy linear, taut Barolos. All the elements are so well balanced. Crushed flowers, mint, pine, spice and lavender are some of the many notes that grace this ethereal but deep, super-expressive Barolo.





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Barolo Castelletto 2019

The 2019 Barolo Castelletto is redolent of pine, menthol, Alpine herbs and crushed flowers. Medium in body, this nuanced, silky Barolo has so much to offer. As is often the case, the Castelletto is a Barolo of subtlety and nuance. This is very nicely done.





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Barolo Bricat 2019

The 2019 Barolo Bricat is bright, aromatic and nicely lifted, with gorgeous energy and purity. Orange zest, white flowers, mint and chalk all run through a core of red-toned fruit in this mid-weight, nuanced Barolo from Manzone. Vi brant saline notes extend the finish.





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Barolo Castelletto 2018

The 2018 Barolo Castelletto is another compelling wine in this range from Manzone. It exudes vertical intensity, not to mention tons of character, right out of the gate. Sweet red/purplish fruit, rose petal, dried herbs lavender, spice and orange zest are some of the many aromas and flavors that emerge gradually over time. Bright Castelletto acids and vibrant tannins round things out nicely. This heady, explosive Barolo has so much going on.







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Barolo Bricat 2018

The 2018 Barolo Bricat is a gorgeous, classy wine. Dried herbs, pine, menthol, spice and licorice give the 2018 tons of aromatic complexity to play offits red cherry fruit. The Bricat is a touch nervy in 2018. I would give it a few years to come together a bit more fully. Even so, it is impressive, especially for the vintage.





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Barolo Riserva Gramolere 2015

The 2015 Barolo Riserva Gramolere is a gorgeous, statuesque wine. Aromatic, deep and beautifully layered, the 2015 has so much to offer. Orange peel, spice, incense, dried rose petal and orange peel emerge slowly as the 2015 shows offall of its complexity and overall charm. There's terrific depth here, and striking inner sweetness, not to mention tons of personality, too.





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Barolo Gramolere 2018

The 2018 Barolo Gramolere is the most linear and intensely aromatic of the three 2018 Barolos in the range. It offers up an exciting mix of bright red fruit intermingled with scents of leather, iron, dried herbs and white pepper that lend brightness. The clean, bracing finish is a thing of beauty. This classically austere Barolo is superb. Give the tannins a year or two to soften.





Barolo Castelletto 2015

Manzone's 2015 Barolo Castelletto is truly impressive. Bold, rich and pulsing with energy, the 2015 captures all the vibrancy that makes Barolo from Castelletto so distinctive, with an extra touch of mid- palate sweetness. If that sounds appealing, well, it is. Rose petal, bright red berry fruit, mint, chalk and wild flowers all run through this wonderfully nuanced, translucent Barolo. There is so much to like here. What a pretty wine this is.







Barolo Gramolere 2015

The 2015 Barolo Gramolere is more powerful and overly dense than the Castelletto tasted alongside it. Sweet tobacco, spice, mint, cedar and tobacco are all laced together. Rich and supple, the Gramolere will drink well with just a few years in bottle. I have a slight preference stylistically for the Castelletto, but is impossible not to love the Gramolere for its immediacy.

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Barolo Riserva Gramolere 2013

The 2013 Barolo Riserva Gramolereis dark and brooding in the glass, with plenty of tobacco, smoke, leather,licorice, montholand spice character. Stylistically, it is more extracted than the 2015s, some of which is the result of the year, but also a reflection of the approach that was common here in the recent past.

Even so, this is a very pretty and distinctive wine.

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Barolo Bricat 2015

The 2015 Barolo is classy, polished and very, very pretty. Sweet floral notes, bright red cherry fruit and a dash of new oak add its considerable allure. Bright and gracious, with striking purity and translucence, the 2015 Bricat is a winner from Manzone. Best of all, the 2015 will drink beautifully with minimal cellaring

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Barolo Bricat 2014

The 2014 Barolo Bricat is all class. Perfumed, gracious and impeccably balanced, the 2014 is sublime today. Freshly cut flowers, sweet red berry fruit, mint and spice all lift from the glass effortlessly. Mid-weight structure and fine, silky tannins add to an impression of total finesse.

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Barolo Castelletto 2014

The 2014 Barolo Castelletto is another very pretty wine from Manzone. Orange peel, rose petal, rosemary, star anise, mint and kirsch give the 2014 a slightly exotic quality that is hugely appealing. The 2014 is already quite expressive and giving. It should drink well for another 15-20 years, maybe more.

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Barolo Gramolere 2014

The 2014 Barolo Gramolere is the darkest and richest of the three 2014 Barolos I tasted. Black cherry, spice, menthol, licorice and dried herbs, along with a kiss of new oak, all meld together. Deep, creamy and beautifully expressive, the Gramolere is another impressive Barolo from Manzone.

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Barolo Bricat 2016

The 2016 Barolo Bricat is a very pretty, gracious wine. Sweet floral, spice and red berry fruit are all nicely lifted, with a hint of new oak that lingers in the background subtly. A wine of aromatic nuance and mid-weight structure, the Bricat will drink well right out of the gate. It is an engaging, alluring wine full of charm.

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Barolo Castelletto 2016

The 2016 Barolo Gramolere is an exquisite wine. It's a Barolo that speaks to finesse and class more than anything else. Pulsating tannins drive a core of sweet red fruit, mint, spice and blood orange, with strong mineral accents that keep everything lively. Bright acids and a spine of tannin shape the long, beautifully persistent finish as the wine fleshes out with time in the glass.







Barolo Gramolere 2016

The 2016 Barolo Castelletto pulses with energy. The flavors are dark and deeply pitched, with tons of balsamic inflections laced throughout. There is a feeling of translucence to the 2016 that is quite appealing. Time in the glass brings out the wine's resonance and breadth. Give it a few years in bottle.

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