

**COLOMBERA & GARELLA**  
(Alto Piemonte, Italy)

April 2026



*With Giacomo Colombera (left) and Cristiano Garella in the Bramaterra Vineyard in Alto Piemonte*

Walking through the hilltop village of *Lessona*, where its cru vineyards are located, it is easy to see the wine history of Alto Piemonte. The bed & breakfast place that I stayed, when I first visited Giacomo Colombera and Cristiano Garella, was once a working winery. When the owner of B&B found out I import wines, he gave me a tour of the cellar, which has a stunning vaulted ceiling. An equally beautiful stone arch entrance graces the property, where horses used to haul harvests into the winery. A framed estate wine label hangs on the hallway. *Lessona* was once a wine thriving village with more than 300 hectares of vines. Now, there are about 20 hectares. Walking through the narrow stone walled streets, I can look over the walls and see the abandoned vineyards. In the next village of Masserano, where the *Bramaterra* cru vineyards are located, the wine history is the same.

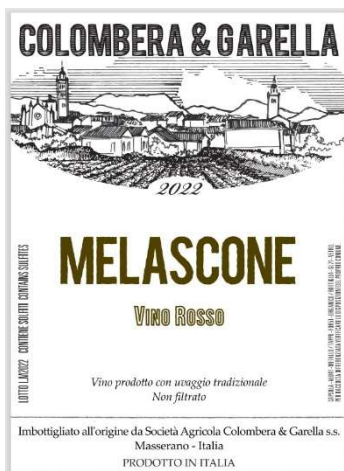
*Lessona* and *Bramaterra* are two of the greatest crus of Alto Piemonte. Alto Piemonte was a flourishing wine region up to the turn of 1900's. Then in 1904, one of the worst hail storms hit Alto Piemonte, wiping out the entire harvest. Once the producers just begin to recover financially, the World War I broke. A similar pattern of recovery followed, only to end with the start of the World War II. Then, the new car factories near Turin took away the most of vine farmers out of the vineyards and into the city. The decades, from 1950's to 2000's, of decline followed. In the end, the truth of wine lives on. It seems the rediscovery of great and forgotten appellations is led by the young generation. It is the case with Colombera & Garella.

Colombera & Garella farms 7 hectares: 3 in *Lessona* and 4 in *Bramaterra*. Nebbiolo-based wines from Alto Piemonte express drastically different than the more southerly Piemonte of Barolo and Barbaresco. Due to the colder continental climate and acidic soils, the great Nebbiolo-based wines from Alto Piemonte have elegance and floral characteristics, with incredible cellar aging. Drinking a great bottle of *Lessona* or *Bramaterra* is unforgettable.

Cristiano Garella and Giacomo Colombera met at a local oenology school. Through their friendship, Giacomo and Cristiano together began their new winery in 2010 - hence, the name of their adventure. The vineyards are with the Colombera family, while the cellar magic is with both Colombera and Garella. Drinking their wines somewhat diminishes the past pain of Alto Piemonte and burns brightly the incandescent hope for the future.

### MELASCONE 2024

**SKU: 312015 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$28.96 Wholesale / \$38.00 Retail per bottle**

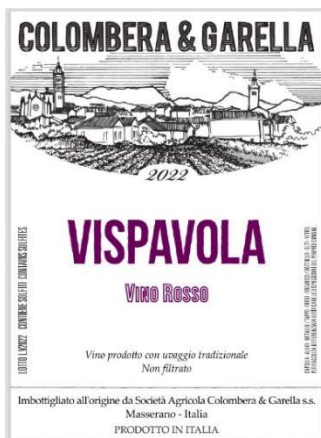


*Melascone* is a blend of 65% Nebbiolo, 20% Croatina and 15% Vespolina. A hint of spring strawberries brings out beauty in this wine. Lifted nose from the presence of Nebbiolo. Elegant with a saline mineral edge. Hard to find a great Nebbiolo-based wine at reasonable prices nowadays. *Melascone* used to be known as *Costa Della Sesia*. Giacomo Colombera and Cristiano Garella wanted to add beautiful Nebbiolo, Croatina and Vespolina grapes from the young vines of their crus of *Bramaterra* and *Lessona* into their *Costa della Sesia*. However, the two crus, despite the better sites, are not in the appellation of *Costa della Sesia*. Hence, the name change. *Melascone* is a local dialect for Nebbiolo or a glass of wine. It is hard to believe this is Colombera & Garella's base wine.

(Note: The labels are not current vintages and are shown for illustration purposes only)

### VISPAVOLA 2023

**SKU: 303870 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$28.96 Wholesale / \$38.00 Retail per bottle**



*Vispavola* is made from 100% *Vespolina*, which is a red spicy varietal native to Alto Piemonte. Aromatic nose with deep colour. After years of adding a bit of *Vespolina* into their *Lessona* and *Bramaterra*, Giacomo and Cristiniao decided to bottle the *Vespolina* varietal separately a few years ago. Unlike Nebbiolo of Alto Piemonte, *Vespolina* is easier going in a sense that the varietal does not need years of aging to drink. The grapes are hand-harvested and fermented with ambient yeasts as with all of their wines. *Vispavola* is aged in stainless steel for about a year. The bottles are cellared for a few months to settle down prior to release. *Vispavola* is a trattoria wine. Drink this wine with all Italian pasta and meat dishes.

### CAVAZUCCHI 2019

**SKU: 311875 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$39.77 Wholesale / \$52.00 Retail per bottle**



This is our second shipment of this cru. Beautiful fragrance. Compelling. Singular. Giacomo and Cristiano tell me the stunning fragrance is the hallmark of the *Cavazucchi* parcel in *Bramaterra*. This is a new red from Colombera and Garella. Made with 85% Nebbiolo and the remainder being Croatina and *Vespolina*. When Giacomo and Cristiano poured this wine for me at their winery, I was surprised and happy to find out this is a separate bottling from the cru of *Bramaterra*. *Cavazucchi* is from the single 0.8-hectare parcel in *Bramaterra* that was planted in 1912.

The *Cavazucchi* parcel had been owned by a local farmer, who was closed to his retirement. Colombera & Garella started collaborating with the owner of *Cavazucchi* parcel in 2019 and had started working in the vineyard. The sale of the *Cavazucchi* parcel was supposed to happen in 2020 but then the owner changed his mind. Then, when the owner finally decided to sell, he did not extend his appellation registration. So, when Colombera & Garella did purchase the vineyard, they did not have the authorization to label it as *Bramaterra 'Cavazucchi'*. Colombera & Garella had to register the *Bramaterra 'Cavazucchi'* with the appellation authority under their own Colombera & Garella winery and will be bottled as such starting with the 2023 vintage. Get this wine at this incredible price before the wine is authorized to label as the cru of *Bramaterra 'Cavazucchi'*.

### CAVAZUCCHI (MAGNUMS) 2019

**SKU: 292985 Speculative 1.5 Litre 6 bottles/ case**  
**\$77.21 Wholesale / \$101.00 per bottle**

This also comes in MAGNUMS.

**BRAMATERRA 'CASCINA COTTIGNANO' 2019**  
**SKU: 175500 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$45.89 Wholesale / \$60.00 per bottle**



Shimmering burgundy colour. Fresh. Perfume of roses with a mineral aftertaste that lingers. Slightly fuller than the *Lessona* below. Thoroughbred character of high-strung and yet elegant taste of mountain-grown Nebbiolo shining through. A hint of orange peel, rosemary and sage with an appealing, slightly bitter taste that is so compellingly Italian. From the single parcel of *Cascina Cottignano*, where the soil transitions drastically from volcanic clay to volcanic sand. It is a blend of 80% Nebbiolo, 10% Vespolina, and 10% Croatina. The wine is aged for two years in *botti* (large traditional 6,000 litre wooden vats), followed by an additional year in bottles prior to release.

**BRAMATERRA 'CASCINA COTTIGNANO' (MAGNUMS) 2020**  
**SKU: 251015 Speculative 1.5 Litre 6 bottles/ case**  
**\$96.00 Wholesale / \$125.00 per bottle**

Comes in MAGNUMS.

**LESSONA 'PIZZAGUERRA' 2020**  
**SKU: 175495 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$48.30 Wholesale / \$63.00 Retail per bottle**



Unmistakable Nebbiolo perfume. Elegant. Fresh. A pleasing grip from Nebbiolo shining through with a lingering aftertaste. *Lessona* is one of the finest sites in Alto Piemonte. *Lessona* has marine sand from a risen seabed of limestone-based soils. A regal expression of Nebbiolo grown near the mountains. Floral and minerally. This wine spends two years in neutral barrels, followed by an additional year in bottles prior to release. Organically farmed vines are hand-harvested and fermentation is with ambient yeasts – like all of their wines. In this vintage, *Lessona* is 100% Nebbiolo. This is one of the prettiest and elegant vintages of *Lessona*.

**LESSONA 'PIZZAGUERRA' (MAGNUMS) 2020**  
**SKU: 46973 Speculative 1.5 Litre 6 bottles/ case**  
**\$98.66 Wholesale / \$129.00 Retail per bottle**

This also comes in MAGNUMS.

**PIAN DI PEU 2021**  
**SKU: 668070 Speculative 750 ml 12 bottles/ case**  
**\$39.77 Wholesale / \$52.00 Retail per bottle**



This is the first vintage of *Pian di Peu*. 100% Nebbiolo. Dried roses with orange peel. Pleasing tannins of Nebbiolo sneaking in at the finish. Showing its freshness from the cool climate of Alto Piemonte. It is a single parcel in the commune of Masserano in the cru of *Bramaterra*. The vines are at 350 m elevation with southwest exposure – one of those golden rules for crus in the cool continental climate. Soil is porphyritic sand of volcanic origins, orange in colour, which gives this wine singular taste. Aged in neutral 1,200 litre botti (big traditional neutral wooden vats) for two years, followed by one year in bottle prior to release. Lovely.

750 ml e

13% vol



*A vintage photo of Masserano (circa 1930's). This vintage photo inspired the label design for Melascone and Vispavola.*

[www.RacineWineImports.ca](http://www.RacineWineImports.ca)