



Leonardo LoCascio Selections, a Member of The Winebow Group, Appointed Exclusive U.S. Importer of Barone Pizzini and La Valle

Richmond, VA – October 13, 2015 – Leonardo LoCascio Selections, a member of The Winebow Group and America’s leading importer of premium Italian wines, has announced that it is the exclusive U.S. importer of Barone Pizzini and La Valle, two of the foremost producers of Franciacorta, Italy’s most prestigious sparkling wine. The producers join a portfolio that represents more than 60 wineries throughout Italy.

“In a time of renewed interest in Italian ‘metodo classico’ sparkling wines, Leonardo LoCascio Selections has decided to take an important position in the Franciacorta category by representing two producers of the highest level and of different styles,” said Ian Downey, senior vice president and general manager of Leonardo LoCascio Selections. “We are thrilled to have these extraordinary producers in our portfolio.”

Barone Pizzini was founded in 1870 and helped define the Franciacorta appellation. After nearly a century in the region, it was one of the first producers to achieve DOC status in 1967. Managing partner Silvano Brescianini took over winemaking responsibilities in 1994. In Franciacorta, Barone Pizzini is recognized as a leader in biodynamic, organic and sustainable farming.

La Valle was founded in 1990 by Eugenio and Giulia Pezzola and is now led by their nephew, Stefano Camilucci, who has evolved the winery into one of the most innovative in Franciacorta. While maintaining an artisanal approach to winemaking, Camilucci, a trained engineer, has implemented the most advanced technologies, such as low temperature and soft pressing in the absence of oxygen in order to preserve the unique character of Franciacorta’s grapes. La Valle is being introduced in the U.S. for the first time.

The two wineries represent very different approaches to Franciacorta production. Barone Pizzini, under Brescianini’s direction, creates traditional Franciacorta wines of classic, refined expressions. Camilucci’s La Valle takes a more avant-garde approach in his winemaking by avoiding malolactic fermentation and the use of oak barrels to produce wines that are alternative interpretations of the Franciacorta style.

Leonardo LoCascio Selections will import five wines from Barone Pizzini: Animante Franciacorta, Bagnadore Franciacorta Riserva, Naturae Franciacorta, Rosé Franciacorta and Satèn Franciacorta; and three wines from La Valle: Naturalis Franciacorta, Pimum Franciacorta and Rosé Franciacorta. For more information, please visit thewinebowgroup.com.

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About Leonardo LoCascio Selections

Leonardo LoCascio Selections, a member of The Winebow Group, has represented Italian wines of impeccable quality, character and value for over 35 years. Each wine in the collection tells a unique story about the family and region that produced it. A taste through the portfolio is a journey across Italy’s rich spectrum of geography, history, culture and cuisine. Whether a crisp Pinot Bianco from the Dolomites or a rich Aglianico from Campania, the wines of Leonardo LoCascio Selections will transport you to Italy’s outstanding regions.