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2003 Rocca di Castagnoli Stielle

The estate's 2003 Stielle (70% Sangiovese, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon) reveals more distinct notes of over-ripeness in its candied red fruits, with pretty notes of tobacco and worn-in leather that develop in the glass. The Sangiovese gives the wine a more slender and taut personality relative to the Buriano, but the wine nevertheless offers plenty of potential. It does seem to have suffered more under the heat of the vintage, though, and today it comes across as more advanced than the Buriano. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2015. Importer: Montecastelli Selections, New York, NY; tel. (212) 414-4898

- Antonio Galloni (June, 2008)

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