

**94**

2005 Rocca di Castagnoli Stielle

The estate's 2005 Stielle is seriously beautiful in this vintage. Sweet dark cherries, flowers, licorice and herbs come together seamlessly in this rich, textured red. This level of depth and concentration was not at all easy to achieve in 2005. I am quite taken with the wine's soft, utterly engaging personality. The round, generous finish leaves a lasting impression for its polish, detail and purity. This is a fabulous effort. Stielle is a blend of 70% Sangiovese and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon aged in French oak. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2025. This is a flat-out great set of wines from Rocca di Castagnoli. The estate releases its wines a year or more later than most, so these are current vintages in the market. Pricing remains exceedingly fair considering the quality of what is in the bottle. Importer: Montecastelli Selections, New York, NY; tel. (212) 414-4898

- Antonio Galloni (October, 2010)

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