

# **My Favorite Riesling** Volume 23.

## ***RAJAT PARR***

**SO FAMOUS, HE HAS HIS OWN WIKIPEDIA PAGE (BUT I DIGRESS).**

**AND WINNER OF 3 GRAND AWARDS FROM THE WINE SPECTATOR.**

**BORN IN CALCUTTA; HE DIDN'T START DRINKING GRAPE JUICE 'TIL HE WAS 20.**

**GRADUATED FROM THE C.I.A. (NOT THAT ONE BUT THE COOLER ONE, IN HYDE PARK)**

**AND EXTERNEED AT THE RAFFLES HOTEL IN SINGAPORE.**

**WORKED AS A FOOD RUNNER AT RUBICON IN SAN FRANCISCO BEFORE THE OMNISCIENT LARRY STONE PULLED HIM ONTO THE FLOOR TO BECOME ASSISTANT CELLAR MASTER.**

**CRAFTED THE ENLIGHTENED WINE PROGRAM AT THE FIFTH FLOOR RESTAURANT IN S.F.**

**PRESENTLY, WINE DIRECTOR FOR ALL THE MICHAEL MINA RESTAURANTS**

**AND CO-OWNER OF THE GREATEST WINE BAR ON THE PLANET, **RN74.****

***TROCKEN, EINS ZWEI DRY, LEITZ, 2009, RHEINGAU \$38.***

## **JOHANNES LEITZ, THE KING OF RIESLING**

**KINGDOM: 40 HECTARES IN RODESHEIM**

**BORN ON: JULY 6, 1964**

**6 FOOT 2" AND 242 POUNDS, THE "KING OF RIESLING" PRESIDES OVER 25 WINES.**

**THERE IS NO KING AS BENEVOLENT AS JOHANNES.**

**FOR EXAMPLE...ON MY LAST TRIP TO THE RHEINGAU NOT ONLY DID WE DRINK RODESHEIM OUT OF RIESLING,**

**BUT I GOT A BRAND NEW MERCEDES FOR THE WEEK...FROM JOHANNES.**

**ALSO, THERE IS NOBODY AS PASSIONATE AS HE IS: NOT ONLY DOES HE ACT AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR HIS OWN WINES BUT FOR RIESLING FROM AROUND THE WORLD.**

**THIS MAGICAL GRAPE GIVES US MORE THAN ANY OTHER WHITE GRAPE. BELIEVED TO BE INDIGENOUS TO GERMANY, RIESLING WAS FIRST PLANTED IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY. IT IS WITHOUT A DOUBT GERMANY'S SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD OF FINE WINE. THE GRAPES ARE PLANTED WIDELY ON WELL-DRAINED, SOUTH-FACING, SLATE-RICH SLOPES, WITH THE GREATEST WINES COMING FROM THE BEST SLOPES IN THE BEST VILLAGES. WINES FROM THE VINEYARDS OF GERMANY ARE DELICATE, RACY, AND STYLISH, COVERING A WIDE SPECTRUM OF FLAVORS. BECAUSE OF BOTH ITS CELLAR LONGEVITY AND ITS ABILITY TO MAINTAIN VARIETAL IDENTITY WHILE REFLECTING THE INDIVIDUALITY OF ITS TERROIR, RIESLING MAY BE THE BEST OF ALL THE WHITE WINE GRAPES. ALTHOUGH IT IS LOW IN ALCOHOL AND LIGHT IN BODY, THE FINEST RIESLINGS HAVE INCREDIBLE AGEING POTENTIAL, AND DEVELOP A VIVID AND ZESTY BOUQUET THAT IS OFTEN COMPARED TO THE SCENT OF PETROL. IT CAN PRODUCE WINES THAT VARY FROM DRY TO VERY SWEET. KNOWN FOR ITS COMBINATION OF ACIDITY AND FRUIT EXTRACT, A TYPICAL RIESLING IS DESCRIBED AS FLOWERY, YET TART WITH GRAPEFRUIT AND HONEYSUCKLE-LIKE FLAVORS. NO GRAPE OTHER THAN RIESLING CAN PRODUCE A WINE WITH SUCH FINESSE, PURITY OF FRUIT, INTENSITY OF FLAVOR, AND A 'LIFT' OF ACIDITY.**

**AND THIS IS DONE AT ITS BEST BY JOHANNES LEITZ, IN HIS KINGDOM OF RODESHEIM.**