



## Wines of the Finger Lakes

### Featured Selection

#### 2007 HERMANN J. WIEMER DRY RIESLING

**H**ermann J. Wiemer, one of the pioneering wine-makers of the Finger Lakes region, surprised many when he announced the sale of his winery to Fred Merwarth, his twenty-nine-year-old winemaker, in August 2007. Wiemer had emigrated from Germany in the early Seventies to make wine for Walter Taylor at the Bully Hill Winery on Keuka Lake. There he worked with hybrid and native American grapes—but yearned to follow in the footsteps of Dr. Konstantin Frank and make wines solely from *vinifera*, the family of grapes responsible for most of the world's finest wines. In 1979, Wiemer opened his own, *vinifera* only, winery on Seneca Lake, and he rapidly became renowned for his excellent Rieslings.

While Wiemer remains involved at the winery, Merwarth is now firmly in control. He was

fortunate to be blessed with an excellent first vintage in 2007, and the Dry Riesling is one of the finest ever produced by the estate. At first glance, you notice its lustrous green/gold color, which is rarely seen in a non-German Riesling. The wine's lovely bouquet hints at apple, lime, and mint, underscored by a certain mineral quality. The citrusy palate is tangy and refreshing, yet not particularly acidic, and it finishes long and clean.

This wine is delicious on its own, but can also accompany a wide range of foods. Try it with light chicken dishes, pork served with a fruity or slightly sweet sauce, roast duck or ham, and even with spicy Chinese, Thai, or Indian dishes.

— Dave Pohl

Dave Pohl, MA '79, is a wine buyer at Northside Wine & Spirits in Ithaca.



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