



The original self-portrait without the filter of the frame glass photographed by Luca Maroni

INTRODUCTION

Leonardo never uses random words in his writings.

His words are diamonds distilled by the experience of his senses and are the effect of all his intellectual elaboration.

They are the essence of his thinking the feeling and his feeling the thinking, because:

“ogni nostra cognizione prencipia da’ sentimenti”,

that is: all our knowledge comes from sensations.

Thus, if Leonardo on the wine writes:

“odorifero e suave licore”,

“divino licore dell’uva”,

“il vino è bono, perciò l’acqua in tavola avanza”, and then:

“il beuto vino elevò l’anima sua inverso il celabro”,

it means that in this way he perceived the wine and like this he ideally considers it.

A spiritual, nutritional and sensorial role, a comfort and a pleasure that Leonardo recognises in wine and that during his life will accompany him daily in his extraordinary work.

A love nourished and motivated even more by the fact that wine is the result of grapes, among the most delicious and fragrant fruits of nature. Nature and fruits that Leonardo considers among the most perfect existing entities, and that wonderfully has the opportunity to know and appreciate in the uncontaminated rural beauty of the territory in which he is born, Vinci and the Montalbano area. Wonderful landscapes that are those of the vineyards and olive groves that the family owns and cultivates in Vinci and Bacchereto. Landscapes that are the ones he idealises and portrays.

And in evaluating the organoleptic qualities of the wine produced by his oenologist in one of his farms, Leonardo deduces from its defects His Method to produce it a better way.

In doing that, he anticipates the accomplishment of the Italian and World Wine Renaissance of the year 2000 by about five hundred years: In 1515 Leonardo was looking for a perfect grape fruit and an oenological transformation that translates fully its native content of juice and aroma into his wine. What was not possible at that time but given the current technique and technology, thanks to the application of His Method, is now universally possible and feasible.

Even in the wine Leonardo is Leonardo: optimiser, precursor, Genius.

So is a fundamental legacy the Leonardo's one to wine and the wine's one to the sensitivity and the art of Leonardo.

Also, and especially because in Leonardo's thoughts and relations with wine there is his human spirit. His feelings and his most intimate and philosophical breath.

Wine is spirit, and, in the words of Leonardo:

"attraverso il vino l'anima si eleva al cervello",

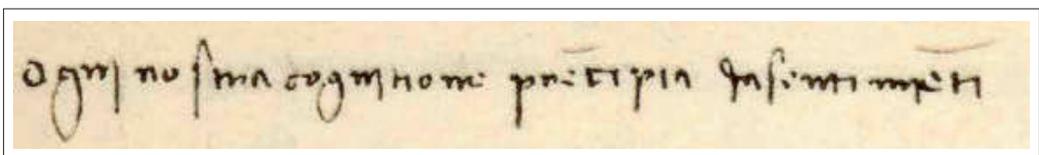
accomplishing the man, vitalising and radiating his reason of his feeling the truth. *Vino Veritas, Vino Humanitas. Vino Humana Veritas.*

Thanks to the wine that is possible to grasp the greatest and immensely crystalline treasure of Leonardo: his humanity, his spirit, his soul, of sublime height, depth and sensitivity.

P.S. Thanks to the esteemed Paolo Galluzzi and Alessandro Vezzosi for having dedicated their life to the study of Leonardo's Science and Art, and for having illustrated with their prefaces my book.

*Codex
Trivulziano, sheet
20 verso.
"Ogni nostra
cognizione
prencipia da'
sentimenti"*

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*To Vinci and its people:
Leonardo's origins and progeny*