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## Marcello Gottardi says...

Contrà Soarda's 2020 vintage has been as unpredictable as the circumstances we are facing in this crazy year. From the cultivation and harvest of the grapes up until the winemaking process, all the steps have been impulsive, sudden and complex. The crop season has been staggering and unsteady, the extreme climatic changes exposed the vineyards to strong sun, heavy rain and abrupt cold weather, that challenged our intrepid vintners in many ways. It has been difficult to take decisions in general, as the time for understanding, interpreting and executing any decision had to be fast and instinctive. We are very enthusiastic that we could bring 80% of perfectly ripe grapes into our cellar thanks to our braveness to wait until the very last minute before harvesting them. We have been very accurate in our multiple selections by hands in the vineyards, making sure to avoid molds and botrytis, but also making sure our grapes developed the perfect aromatics we aim to and the good alcohol level, that wasn't easy to reach due to rainfalls also in September.





We have started harvesting Pinot Noir at the end of August, continued with Merlot and waited until the very end to collect our remaining grapes, Vespaia, Garganega, Marzemino Nero and Carmenere. Harvest has officially ended on the 9th of October. The winemaking process was also unforeseeable. Against the worrying expectations of low aromatics, we happily found out that the white varieties contained a substantial amount of delightful scents, and the red varieties such as Merlot, Pinot Nero and Marzemino Nero have shown up to be phenomenal. At the moment, the fermentations are reaching their end but we still expect to be surprised one more time. We are proud because despite the complex and unforeseeable climatic conditions we took our risks and brought home the best quality grapes we could aim at.

**I BELIEVE THE BEST WORD TO DESCRIBE THIS VINTAGE IS  
"ENIGMATIC"**

