

## WOMEN WINEMAKER'S ARE BREAKING THE GRAPE CEILING!

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Metro Wines offers a grand selection of quality and affordable wines, but the one thing Metro Wines offers that many other wine shops do not is their Women Winemakers section. Metro Wines takes pride in how far female vintners have come in the predominately male wine industry.

In the past, women vintners have inherited wineries from their husbands or fathers, but around 1960, many women decided to branch out and start their own wineries and run them the way they believed worked best. Even though men still dominate winemaking, women have made huge strides to catch up to their male counterparts in terms of creating complex, approachable, and quality wines that everyday wine lovers enjoy. The ladies are breaking the grape ceiling!!

As I continue this blog in the future, it is my goal to talk about a different female wine maker and how she has become successful in this male-dominated industry. Not only do women make great wine, women drink great wine. 60% of wine bought in the U.S. is bought by females. Us ladies may just know a thing or two about wine.

My first female winemaker is a personal favorite. Her name is Gaetana Jacono. She runs the wine estate Valle dell'Acate in Sicily. Gaetana represents the 6th generation of wine makers at Valle dell'Acate. With the same love, attention to detail and tradition that tied her ancestors to the Sicilian hillside vines, Gaetana has devoted herself to the production of World class Sicilian wines. She has earned the respect and recognition of the international wine community.

Valle dell'Acate is located in the Bidini manor among the sinuous hills of the Dirillo valley. The wine estate is one of the most enterprising in southeastern Sicily. The estate was founded by the Jacono family, which has been devoted to growing grapes and producing wine since the days when Vittoria was the most active center for wine export to France in the late 19th century.

One wine that I absolutely love of Jacono's is Il Frappato. It is a ruby red wine where you will get the bouquet of fresh hints of red berries, blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries. On the palate, you will find a very lively, fresh, and subtle wine with hints of red berries and spices such as sage. It demonstrates formidable depth on the palate, and several of wine's most **feminine** qualities! You can pair this wine with appetizers made with fresh cheeses, meats, Sicilian blue fin tuna, sushi and sashimi.



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