

Seminario del Venerdì

On the Aesthetic Properties of Wine

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Abstract: In this paper we defend the intuition that, upon tasting a wine, an agent improves her epistemic standing towards it. Suppose that oenology achieved an understanding of all the natural information concerning wine and wine tasting and let Clara be the representative of such oenological community. Because of an unusual physical condition, Clara was never able to sample wine. One day a cure is discovered and she tries out a glass of L'Apparita 1985. Does Clara learn something new about the wine by tasting it? We first show (§2) that Clara's allegedly improved epistemic status cannot depend on a natural property of the wine or on a quale. After drawing two distinctions among the aesthetic properties of wine (§3), we present our solution (§4), which appeals to response-dependent properties. We finally argue (§5) that our account can be used to vindicate contemporary wine criticism from the charge of epistemic untrustworthiness.

Venerdì 13 febbraio, ore 15:30
Aula A2 – Plesso di via D'Azeglio