

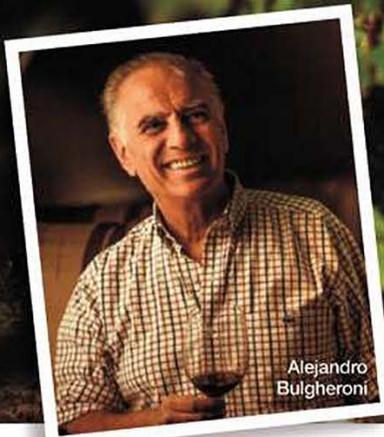
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# The *CURRENT TALK*

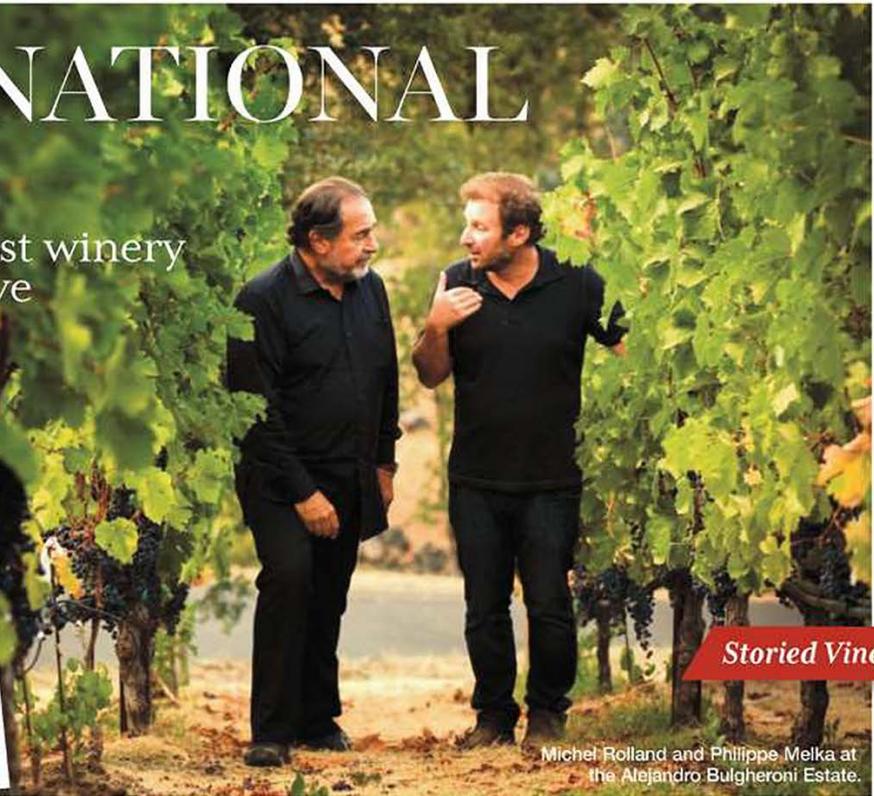
GOSSIP, IDEAS, & GOINGS ON

## INTERNATIONAL ROOTS

Napa Valley's newest winery boasts an impressive global team.



Alejandro Bulgheroni



Storied Vines

Michel Rolland and Philippe Melka at the Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate.

Since 1965 Argentinian-Italian vintner Alejandro Bulgheroni has developed a host of award-winning wineries and agricultural projects around the world. His latest is a passion project in Napa Valley that bears his name. The new **Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate**—specializing in small-lot Cabernet Sauvignon wines from the estate and select sites within Napa Valley—has just opened with an elegant hospitality salon.

To ensure the craftsmanship of superior wines, Bulgheroni has assembled a winemaking dream team led by industry veteran Santiago Cilley, managing director of Bulgheroni's North American-based wine companies, renowned winemaker **Philippe Melka**, consulting enologist **Michel Rolland**, and viticulturist **Jim Barbour**. Bulgheroni relates, "Our intent with Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate is to select superior sites within the Valley and provide Philippe and Michel with every available resource to produce extraordinary wines that reflect these special places."

The heart of the estate is a storied 14-acre parcel of land in

St. Helena that can trace its history back to the Rancho Carne Humana land grant given to Edward T. Bale in 1841. Bale married the niece of Mexican General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo and was awarded the grant shortly thereafter. Eventually the grant land was sold and, in 1860, the parcel, now owned by Bulgheroni, was sold to prominent blacksmith John Howell (for whom Howell Mountain is named). In 1975, Jim and Nena Talcott were the first to plant grapes on the property. The land later served as the Founders Room for the wine portfolio of H. William Harlan and produced the first vintages of The Napa Valley Reserve.

After acquiring the property, Bulgheroni set to work on extensive renovations and improvements to upgrade the Talcott's old stone winery and plant new vineyard blocks, to transform the tasting salon, which will be available exclusively to the Bulgheroni Estate's member allocation and to offer educational tastings. [www.bulgheroniwine.com](http://www.bulgheroniwine.com)