



A place in the  
**museum**  
 for the „most  
 exclusive glass  
 series in the world“

#### Latest news



***BAVARIAN TV IN THE  
 "ZWIESELER WINKEL" REGION***

PAGE 2

#### Event



***PRESS EVENT IN SOUTH AFRICA  
 MOSCOW: EXTRAVAGANZA 2006***

PAGE 5

#### Special



***WINE & TRUFFLE HUNT  
 IN PIEDMONT***

PAGE 4

## A PLACE IN THE MUSEUM FOR THE „MOST EXCLUSIVE GLASS SERIES IN THE WORLD“

DESIGNER ROMANO GRITTI PRESENTS DRINKING GLASSES WITH MOBILE SPIRALS MADE FROM GLASS, GOLD AND BRILLIANTS – NEW PART OF THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION

Frauenau. „CON FUOCO – with fire“: the name of an exclusive range of glass unveiled by designer Romano Gritti on the 15th of September 2006 in the Frauenau Glass Museum. But before the finished product was finally presented, almost insurmountable hurdles first had to be overcome.

„The story of CON FUOCO is a story of passion,“ said Romano Gritti at the presentation, in the Glass Museum. He wanted to create „the most exclusive glasses in the world“: glasses for the finest wines in the world. The idea came to him while he was drinking a glass of Barolo. „I took a vine tendril in my fingers and wound it around the stem of my glass,“ he recalls. The result was designs for a complete range of glasses. CON FUOCO are stylish, timeless drinking glasses. The special feature, however, winds around the stem of the glass: fine, mobile accessories made from glass or gold, with some inset with brilliants.

All over the world, the artist has been searching for the finest glassmakers in order to have these unique glasses made. „I took my designs around with me everywhere. And everyone wanted them, but nobody could actually manufacture them,“ explains the designer. On his quest, Romano Gritti, who lives in France and Italy as a freelance artist and designer, was even turned away by world-renowned glassmaking companies.



Mrs. Rühl and Romano Gritti with Herbert Schreiner, Mayor of Frauenau

„We can't do it. There's never been anything like this before,“ was one response he got in Murano, for example, the home of Venetian glass. In Lauscha in Thuringia, he finally found a company that would produce the first prototypes. But series production was out of the question there. He had proved that his designs could become reality, but now he needed a company that would be able to produce the glasses in sufficient quantity.

„It soon became clear to me that I'd need the finest glassmakers in the world for this task. And I wanted the finest-quality glass for CON FUOCO,“ said Romano Gritti.

He finally found a glassmaker in the „Zwieseler Winkel“ region that was willing to take on the challenge of „producing a glass that nobody can produce“. In a specially-erected glass manufacturing plant, the symbiosis of art and craftsmanship manufacturing took shape. The managers of the glass museum were so impressed that the glass series is being integrated permanently into its collection.

The golden rings and spirals are made in a jewellery manufacturer's in Pforzheim. In Zwiesel, these jewels are combined with the glasses. Romano Gritti is rightly proud of what he's achieved. „Today, we can enjoy the beauty of a glass whose likes have never before been seen.“



Comte Romano Gritti

Mrs. Rühl, Romano Gritti and Herbert Schreiner,



Film:

„FROM PRODUCTION TO THE MUSEUM“

BAVARIAN TELEVISION (BR) MADE A FILM IN THE ZWIESEL GLASS CENTRE ABOUT THE PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD'S MOST EXCLUSIVE SERIES OF DRINKING GLASSES BY ROMANO GRITTI.

Dr. Hartmann from BR also visited the permanent exhibition in the Frauenau Glass Museum, where the „CON FUOCO“ glass series is on show for visitors to marvel at and buy.



## GRITTI'S COLUMN

Dear Readers,

What has been an extremely successful and eventful year for me is now almost at a close. My travels have taken me half-way around the world – to places such as Moscow or parts of the United Arab Emirates – places that until only recently we weren't allowed to travel. Everywhere I went, I met people who had an extremely positive influence on their surroundings through their confidence in their ability and willingness to deliver. By deliver, I mean an honesty and clarity in everything they did, along with the willingness to recognise the achievements of others and laud them appropriately. One example of this was the millionaires' trade fair Extravaganza, held at the end of October in Moscow. Here, the marked craving that is entrenched deep in the Russian soul for luxury and beauty was clearly noticeable. These „New Russians“, as they are known, surround themselves with luxurious things in order to express a new form of applied joie de vivre, not to demonstrate their financial power. I think this joie de vivre is something we are all born with. Some of us, however, need to find it again. But to others, it remains hidden, even though it's already „ante portas“. Help these people to throw open the right doors and level out the path to a new, inner sensitivity and quality. The real way to handle beauty and luxury calls for a certain humility – and the realisation that the inflationary use of the term „luxury“ leads to it being frequently misunderstood. The result is the objects the term is applied



to come across as repulsive or alien. Although for some people, even their daily bread is a luxury. Help these people when fortune is smiling upon you. Through my column, I'd like to introduce you to people who have achieved great things through passion, skill and dedication. I will not refer solely to the worlds of art, science, architecture and design, but also to fashion, hotels and gastronomy and most importantly to wine-growing. Heinz Winkler, a multi-award-winning top chef in the German town of Aschau, is one of these people and will be the first profile in the series in the next edition. I spoke to him about the current trend towards people aspiring to higher values. All that remains is for me to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

Stay true to yourselves,

Yours,

Comte Romano Gritti



Alessandro, Gritti, Frederico



Macelleria Salumeria Sandrone



At the Sandrone / Barolo vineyard

Friends from Piedmont:

[www.osteriadeicatrici.com](http://www.osteriadeicatrici.com)  
[www.sandroneluciano.com](http://www.sandroneluciano.com)

## WINE & TRUFFLE HUNT

ITALY AND PIEDMONT: THE SYMBOL OF BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES AND UNPARALLELED CULINARY PLEASURES. EXPERIENCE THEM WITH TRUE INTENSITY – THANKS TO A FEW USEFUL TIPS AND THE MOST EXCLUSIVE GLASSES IN THE WORLD, FROM ROMANO GRITTI:

### VINEYARDS

- Marchesi di Barolo / Barolo  
[www.marchesibarolo.com](http://www.marchesibarolo.com)
- Conterno Fantino / Montforte d'Alba  
[www.conternofantino.it](http://www.conternofantino.it)
- Sandrone / Barolo  
[www.sandroneluciano.com](http://www.sandroneluciano.com)

### FOOD

- Osteria dei Catari / Montforte d'Alba  
[www.osteriadeicatari.com](http://www.osteriadeicatari.com)
- Gianfranco Massolino, Trattoria della Posta  
[www.trattoriadellaposta.it](http://www.trattoriadellaposta.it)
- Chocolatier Mauro Riccardi,  
Via G. Marconi 24, Cherasco (CN),

### HOTELS

- Le case della Saracca, Montforte d'Alba  
[www.saracca.com](http://www.saracca.com)



### PAOLO ABBONA, MARQUIS OF BAROLO/BAROLO:

„Until now, you've only been able to taste, smell and see your wine. But with CON FUOCO, you can now hear it too!“

### CONTERNO FANTINO/MONTFORTE D'ALBA:

„Until now, we thought that our wine was 70 % produced in the vineyard and 30 % in the cantina. Now, we know that there's an extra 20 per cent from the Gritti glass!“

## MOSCOW: SHOPPING MILLIONAIRE-STYLE

EXTRAVAGANZA 2006: NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH WOULD A MILLIONAIRES' TRADE FAIR BE MORE LOGICAL THAN IN MOSCOW, THE CITY WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF MILLIONAIRES.

The showcase from just under 200 exhibitors at Extravaganza 2006 offers the finest of the fine and ranges from ham and jewellery to snowmobiles. When bottles of perfume sell for just under Euro 50,000, golden dummies for Euro 8,000, a Bugatti Veyron for around Euro 1.1 million and a mobile phone for no less than Euro 770,000, then real values truly count: and this is precisely the place to showcase Romano Gritti's products.

„Einkauf Zentrale Moskau“ (EZR), our Russian importer with stores in Moscow and St. Petersburg, used Extravaganza 2006 as a platform to present the world's most exclusive drinking glasses to the Russian market in conjunction with

Rosenthal Studiohaus. For EZR, this was the most important table-top event of the season and was celebrated in style with Romano Gritti's visit. CON FUOCO will be putting in many more appearances in the not too distant future, including with exclusive partners such as Rosenthal and Robbe & Berking.



10 November 2006 - Grapevine Publicity  
***THE MOST EXCLUSIVE  
 GLASS SERIES IN THE  
 WORLD***

WITH HIS GLASS SERIES CON FUOCO COMTE ROMANO GRITTI TESTYLIER – ONE OF ITALY'S FOREMOST DESIGNERS – HAS CREATED SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW, AND REVOLUTIONIZED THE WORLD OF EXCLUSIVE DRINKING.

Ultra-elegant glasses created especially for the world's greatest wines, enhanced by moveable accessories - that is CON FUOCO. The decorative accessories designed by Gritti are made from fine 22-carat gold or crystal glass. In a patented process they are fused with the glass and yet remain freely moveable up and down the stem. Each product line (CON FUOCO with crystal-glass spirals and CON FUOCO D'ORO with gold accessory) features ten different shapes of glass, covering the entire spectrum of classic and exclusive drinking.



Group shot



Esti Mellet-Mass, Kim Penman  
 - Caxton magazines

CON FUOCO is also revolutionary in the materials it uses: the glass comes from a factory in Bavaria and is almost as hard as diamond. It is of the utmost purity and transparency and its special composition also makes it extremely hard to break.



Arco Laarman of Glen Carlou, Romano Gritti, Frank Braeutigam, Dale den Dulk of De Toren



Heidi Finestone, Faasie Malherba, Tammy Stipinovich, Nicola Salmon



Romano Gritti and Heidi Finestone



Frank Carla Swanson  
 Top Billing and Mr Swanson





## ***STAR CHEF HEINZ WINKLER AND ROMANO GRITTI***

THE CULTURE OF ENJOYMENT PAR EXCELLENCE

Heinz Winkler is one of the finest chefs in Germany and has won prestigious awards from all over the world. Romano Gritti is a freelance artist and designer and – with CON FUOCO – a pioneering innovator of glass manufacturing. When two such eminent authorities meet at a wine trade fair in Meran, then you can be sure of an exciting outcome. Look forward to the exclusive interview with the pair in the January / February 2007 edition.



## ***LUXURY LIFESTYLE TV STATION***

TOP BILLINGS FROM CAPE TOWN PRAISES ROMANO GRITTI

The luxury TV show „Top Billings“ drew up a special, lavishly-produced report on Romano Gritti and his work as an artist and designer. With a fantastic side-effect: viewers in South Africa were able to trace the entire history of CON FUOCO's creation, since Top Billings sent its own camera team to the “Zwieseler Winkel” region, renowned for the glass-making industry, to film every aspect of the glass series's production, from the craftsman's skill of the glass-maker to the presentation in the Frauenau Glass Museum. An in-depth report (and the film in downloadable format) will appear in the next edition.

## ***YOU WILL SOON ALSO BE ABLE TO ORDER GRITTI PRODUCTS ONLINE***

AS WELL AS A RANGE OF GLASSES WITH GLASS SPIRALS, THE PORTFOLIO WILL INITIALLY INCLUDE JEWELLERY, CHOCOLATE AND ACCESSORIES BY ROMANO GRITTI.

The shop will open its „doors“ in January / February 2007. We will keep you informed by e-mail and of course in the next edition.

## ***INFO***

THE NEXT EDITION WILL APPEAR IN  
JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2007

### ***Imprint***

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