

THE SOMM JOURNAL

Lolla-Palazzo

Grammy-nominated music producer/director Scott Palazzo has been making wines that fit into the "cult" category in Napa for just under a decade now, including his latest release of Bordeaux-inspired reds. He made his first vintage of Right Bank Proprietary Red in 2003, and ten vintages later, the **Palazzo 2013 Right Bank Reserve (\$90)** from Napa Valley is a creature of freshness and firmness. The blend of 68% Merlot, 24% Cabernet Franc, and 8% Cab Sauvignon has aromas akin to drinking that first cup of coffee on a spring morning after a night of rainfall. The earth's perfume rises out of the ground and the mocha in the beans transcends the glass as black fruit comes in mid-palate. This wine is focused with fury. Dry tannins are tempered with a sweet plum-and-cassis wrap. **95**

On the other side, the **Palazzo 2015 Left Bank Red Cuvée (\$50)** leads with Cabernet Sauvignon and blends in Merlot and Cab Franc. This is Palazzo's first go at this style and he didn't produce a Right Bank blend for this vintage. This wine is chewy, cheerful, and cherry-laden, casting pomegranate and rhubarb in a brilliant light amidst dark chocolate and tilled soil. **95**



Scott Palazzo.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCOTT PALAZZO

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**FEDERICA ROSY
BOFFA PIO
IS THE FUTURE
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Fourth-generation vintner Pio Boffa of Pio Cesare with his daughter, fifth-generation proprietor Federica Rosy Boffa Pio.