



*Susana Balbo*

*Brioso*

### **The Philosophy**

After 2 decades of winemaking, Susana Balbo has a strong sense of what she wants from her wines. Susana strives for optimal balance, with layers of complexity coming from blends she creates from individually fermented and barrel-aged varietals. The wines are never heavy or dull. Power is never the object—finesse is. She wants people who drink her wines to feel that every sip from the glass is as exciting as the first. The Susana Balbo Signature wines are the top barrel selections from her overall production, thus quantities are quite limited.

### **The Details**

Vintage:	2005
Varietal Composition:	65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Malbec, 5% Petit Verdot, 5% Cab Franc
Vineyard Locations:	Agrelo, Tupungato
Avg. Vineyard Elev.:	3,300 feet
Avg. Age of Vines:	26 years
Rootstock:	Ungrafted
Harvest Method:	Hand-harvested
Special Handling:	Pumped over & delestage 3 x daily; extended maceration for 30 days
Oak Regimen:	14 months in 100% new French barriques
Fining:	None
Filtration:	None
Alcohol:	14.0%
T.A.	5.74
Total Case Production:	350 cases (6-packs)

### **Tasting Notes/Food Pairing Suggestions**

Deep, brooding and intense garnet color with deep aromas of black currants framed by light French oak. Big, lush and concentrated with a core of red and black currant fruit. It has a range of layered flavors including dark chocolate, tobacco and cedar leading into a long finish. Big and refined all at the same time. It will drink well now with a nice meal, but should improve over the next 5 years. Pairs well with beef, pork, lamb, squab, quail and duck.

### **About the Name/Label**

The label features figurines from a silver Huarpe Indian necklace that Susana owns. The figures represent women's reproductive role as the connection between the past, present, and future. She considers her role as winemaker to be the connection between the vineyards (past), the winemaking (present), and the finished wines (future). Brioso means "tenacity or strength of spirit", and it is the adjective most often used by Susana's close friends to describe both herself and her passion for make great wines.



**VINE CONNECTIONS**  
Authentically Argentine ► Uniquely Ginjo ► Consistently Impressive

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