

BY BILL ZACHARKIW, THE GAZETTE JANUARY 30, 2010



Bill Zacharkiw eyes a glass of freshly poured wine.

Photograph by: Vincenzo D'Alto, Gazette file photo

Rioja 2006, La Montesa, Palacios Remondo, Spain red, \$21.35, SAQ # 10556993.
Extremely clean Rioja, which normally for me is a negative, but not in this case. Palacios's wines seem to be able to have maximum ripeness while not becoming too sweet. Instead, a great depth of fruit, ripe, red and fresh. Tannins are soft and juicy, and the oak, while a touch too present for now, is by no means suffocating. Finishes with a tea-like bitterness. Drink now-2015. Food pairing: deer and other stronger meats with fruit compote.

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