

Book Reviews

Author, Title	Reviewer
Stephen Brook <i>The Finest Wines of California: A Regional Guide to the Best Producers and Their Wines</i>	John W. Haeger
James L. Watson and Melissa L. Caldwell (eds.) <i>The Cultural Politics of Food and Eating: A Reader</i>	Peter Musolf
Mike Veseth <i>Wine Wars: The Curse of the Blue Nun, the Miracle of Two Buck Chuck, and the Revenge of the Terroirists</i>	Stephen Chaikind
Elisa Giuliani, Andrea Morrison and Roberta Rabbellotti (eds.) <i>Innovation and Technological Catch-up. The changing geography of wine production</i>	Rolf A.E. Mueller
Ian Taplin <i>The Modern American Wine Industry: Market Formation and Growth in North Carolina</i>	Tony Lima and Norma Schroder

STEPHEN BROOK: *The Finest Wines of California: A Regional Guide to the Best Producers and Their Wines*. The University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 2011, 320 pp., ISBN 978-0-520-26658-2, \$34.95.

The Finest Wines of California is the fourth title in a series of “illustrated guides” to major wine regions developed by the team responsible *The World of Fine Wine*, a serious, ultra-glossy, “cultural journal” launched in 2004. The author is Stephen Brook, an accomplished UK-based writer on wine and related topics whose works include very good books on Sauternes, Pauillac and Germany interalia. More relevant in this context, he is also the author of a hefty, authoritative survey of California wines published in 1999 by Faber & Faber, which is now out of print. That Mr. Brook is both outsider to California and a student of its wines since the