

 **91**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2022

2005 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **94**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2026

2006 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **97**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2028

2004 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **92**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2022

2007 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **90**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2020

2003 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **95**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2028

2008 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **91**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2020

2002 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **95**  
points  
Drink: 2016-2030

2009 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **94**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2024

2001 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **94**  
points  
Drink: 2016-2030

2010 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **96**  
points  
Drink: 2015-2025

2000 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **92**  
points  
Drink: 2016-2025

2011 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo

 **94**  
points  
Drink: 2017-2034

2012 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo



*I was also especially pleased to sample an entire retrospective of my favorite Vulture producer, Elena Fucci. This charming young lady released her first vintage of Aglianico del Vulture Titolo in 2000, and I was able to revisit all 13 of her releases. My tasting represented the second time Elena Fucci has ever presented a full vertical. To say I was impressed is an understatement. I did not score any of her wines under 90 points and I was especially pleased by how well they showed in the weakest vintages like 2002 and 2003. Elena Fucci is a beacon of hope and a symbol of the greatness that can be achieved in this forgotten land: The proverbial diamond in the rough. She lays the groundwork for confidence in the longevity of Aglianico del Vulture. Her inaugural vintage, made 15 years ago, is remarkably well preserved. My feeling is that it will continue to age and evolve gracefully for many years to come.*

Monica Larner

### 2006 Elena Fucci Aglianico del Vulture Titolo

The 2006 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo takes the wine to an even bigger scale, if possible, in terms of color, density and concentration. This was a warm vintage on the Vulture volcano with harvest times that started earlier than average the third week of October. The bouquet is absolutely seamless with interconnected tones of dried cherry, chocolate, spice, volcanic smoke, flint and grilled herb that form a long and compelling aromatic continuum. It's as if Titolo was taken up a notch in intensity in 2006. In the mouth, the wine shows softness and a rich textural fabric that blankets the palate from start to finish. It is drinking beautifully right now. The wine shows both elegance and power.

One of my lingering curiosities concerns the longevity of Aglianico del Vulture. This is a topic I have started to research (with this vertical tasting) and hope to continue to explore in the future. This year, I had the great pleasure of tasting a complete vertical of Elena Fucci's Aglianico del Vulture Titolo, from 2000 to 2012. Her inaugural vintage was 2000 and 2012 is her current release. She makes but one wine and this is it. Because all her effort goes into that single product with the same consistency and approach, year after year...

- Monica Larner (April, 2015)

### 2004 Elena Fucci Aglianico del Vulture Titolo

The 2004 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo is a wine of amazing beauty. Its personality is timid and understated initially, but its true spirit comes alive with confident and articulate tones as the wine slowly opens in the glass. Nothing is obvious about the 2004 Titolo. It is sleek and flirtatious, revealing what it wants to show one delicate aroma at a time. Dried fruit, cassis, bright berry, earthy tones, crushed mineral and exotic spice peel off layer by layer. The wine shows an inky dark, garnet color with lively highlights of ruby and crimson. Its concentration is equally bold and dense with a perfect, although seemingly oxymoronic weightless determination that underlines its pedigree and elegance. In the mouth, Titolo exhibits firm, but polished and fine tannins that add to the overall textural richness. This vintage shows all the qualities for long aging.

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- Monica Larner (April, 2015)

### 2000 Elena Fucci Aglianico del Vulture Titolo

I was blown away by the complexity of the 2000 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo, the first vintage produce by a rising star of Southern Italian winemaking: Elena Fucci. The wine shows an ever-changing bouquet that evolves slowly to reveal blackcurrant, licorice, tar, balsam herb and dark mineral. I went back to the wine 24 hours later and the bouquet was just as intact as when I first tasted it. In fact, it was even silkier, finer and smoother. This is wine of pedigree and elegance that serves as an auspice of good fortune for the vintages to follow. Elena Fucci set her bar very high with her first wine, and continued to over-perform after that. This is an inaugural masterpiece that shows no signs of slowing down. It drinks beautiful right now, but will easily hold ten more years.

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- Monica Larner (April, 2015)

**2003 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

Still an impressive wine, the 2003 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo is the weakest link in the exceptional collection of wines presented by Elena Fucci and her beautiful Basilicata. The Vulture generally sees heavy snow cover in the winter for abundant underground water reserves and very steep shifts between daytime and nighttime temperatures. Because the area is much cooler, this wine seems to have suffered less from the scorching heat that exhausted the rest of Italy in the summer of 2003. Having said that, this Titolo offers a slightly more evolved and oxidative style with dried fruit, plum, prunes, crème de cassis, tobacco and used leather. The mouthfeel benefits from warm thickness, alcoholic power and firm tannins. The 2003 vintage paints the Aglianico grape with thicker brush strokes and thicker, more simplistic lines. But it is definitely solid and delicious at its core. It should hold five years or more.

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**2001 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

The 2001 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo is slightly meatier and fuller compared to the vintage before it. The aromas shift to autumnal tones with prominent leather, spice and tobacco on proud display. These are in part tertiary developments, but the wine never feels dated or aged. Indeed, it presents broad shoulders with a fleshy, rich context that includes blackberry, plum, crushed mineral, pencil shavings and rich chocolate. It maintains a high level of complexity and overall balance with an extraordinary sense of dimension and determination. Silky tannins wrap smoothly over the palate and the wine finishes with very long and subtle persistency.

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**2002 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

The biggest surprise of my 2000-2012 vertical tasting is the 2002 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo. This wine boldly defies the difficulty of the vintage with an ensemble of aromas that show amazing depth and vitality. The character of the wine is definitely a bit sharper and more nervous compared to Elena Fucci's other wines. Aromas include dried balsam herb, Indian spice, resin, tar and Christmas spice. The fruit component of cassis and dried berry is more subdued compared to the warmer (and less humid) 2001 vintage. Although the fruit is beginning to fade, the wine continues to show verve and life at this stage in its evolution. The acidity and firmness of the tannic structure should keep it intact for more years to come, but I will nonetheless assign a shorter drinking window to the 2002 vintage. No matter how you cut it, this is an impressive wine that delivers the very best from a vintage that brought many, more experienced winemakers to their knees.

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**2005 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

From a cooler vintage with harvest dates that extended into the first week of November, the 2005 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo has begun to veer toward tertiary aromas of tar, pressed fruit, dried tobacco, cola and grilled herb. Pretty, and softer, tones of bitter chocolate, coffee grinds, barbecue smoke, Teriyaki and toasted almond fill in the back. The wine shows a good level of concentration and darkness with dried fruit aromas of prune and plum as a compliment. This vintage exhibits a little less energy than the others, but it nonetheless boasts the excellence of Aglianico on the Vulture volcano.

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**2008 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

The 2008 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo represents what many consider to be one of the best vintages on the Vulture volcano. In fact, this wine still boasts its youthfulness and shows few signs of age or slowing down. The bouquet is timid and closed initially. Like the spectacular 2004 vintage, you need to give it the times it needs to fully open. Dark fruit, spice, leather, balsam herb and crushed mineral rise to attention. The mouthfeel is extremely elegant and long with a bright mineral personality that renders a feeling of extreme sharpness and focus. This gorgeous wine promises a long aging evolution ahead. It has only just begun its journey.

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**2012 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

Elena Fucci's latest release is the 2012 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo. The wine shines bright with primary aromas of dark fruit, herb, oak spice and dark volcanic tones of crushed granite and smoke. Given the proven track record of this wine, I'd expect this vintage to age for 15 to 20 years without a hitch. The 2012 vintage was only slightly warmer than average and those ripe fruit flavors do a lot to round out and soften the firm tannic backbone of the wine. There's a notable point of acidity that helps the wine to achieve an impressive sense of balance. Elena Fucci has another successful edition of Titolo for us to enjoy over the years to come.

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**2010 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

From a consistent vintage, the 2010 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo opens to a garnet color that is shade lighter and more ruby-toned compared to the other wines in this vertical tasting. This is an austere and sophisticated expression of Aglianico with developed muscle, power and brawn. Its character is streamlined, vertical and direct. The bouquet exhibits impressive depth with sharp tones of small berry, forest floor, grilled herb, dried mint and volcanic ash or smoke. Titolo shows the deft hand of Elena Fucci. Her family once sold fruit to local estates but this courageous young lady launched her Titolo brand in 2000 with the help of her father and her grandfather who farmed these old vines his entire life.

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**2011 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

The 2011 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo definitely shows the heat of the vintage with thicker aromas of blackberry preserves, barbecue spice, teriyaki sauce, liquid smoke and grilled rosemary twig. There's a sweet element to the bouquet that underscores the summer heat of 2011. That natural sweetness carries over to the palate where, not surprisingly, the tannins feel lush and soft. The mouthfeel is opulent and round with loads of blackberry and blackcurrant on the long finish. This edition of Titolo will certainly prove cellar worthy, but I can't imagine it lasting as long as some of the wines made in cooler years.

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**2009 Elena Fucci Aglianico del  
Vulture Titolo**

The 2009 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo shows an evident note of sweetness that transcends the bouquet and the mouthfeel. Morello cherry, ripe blackberry and plum is backed by cinnamon, cardamon and Asian spice. The quality of the nose is intense, bright, seamless and extremely balanced. Of the various editions of Titolo tasted in this vertical, the 2009 is among the most opulent, rich and fleshed out. Even the quality of the tannins feels superior from a textural point of view with thick lines and a velvety feel. Titolo still shows primary youthfulness and should age steadily over the course of the next decade.

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### **2007 Elena Fucci Aglianico del Vulture Titolo**

The 2007 Aglianico del Vulture Titolo showed some bottle variation with evolved aromas of dried apple skin, apricot and grilled herb. At the back, Titolo delivers enormous depth with thick black fruit and blackberry preserves that are presented in dense, luscious layers. This was a moderately cool year in which the harvest occurred toward the first week of November. Ruby and crimson colors characterize the bouquet and the wine shows good acidity and fine tannic intensity. I loved the fullness of the 2007 vintage, although slight notes of oxidation seem to suggest that this wine won't last as long as the others. It seems to be evolving fast.

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