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Interview with Mark Renodin, Owner, Six Mile Creek Vineyard (Governor's Cup Winner of 2019 NY Wine Classic)

NYWGF: When was the moment you fell in love with wine/wine industry?

MR: I attended college and received my degree in culinary arts, it was during my training, part of which was a wine appreciation class, that I developed an affinity for wine. I was fascinated with all the different regions, varietals, and styles of wines in the world. And the fact that it has been made for thousands of years and had an influence on whole cultures.

NYWGF: What's your best experience/event since you've been part of the industry?

MR: That's an easy one. Winning the Governor's Cup!

NYWGF: What's the one wine you can't live without?

MR: I would have to say Zinfandel. That robust, full bodied, fruit forward wine is the first dry red I learned to appreciate. Sadly, for me that is one we just can't grow here in the finger lakes. If I had to pick one that we do have here it would definitely be Riesling.

NYWGF: What do you think is going to be the next big wine trend?

MR: I think the new trend has already started and that's wine in cans. I not sure how exactly I feel about that honestly. The old school in me doesn't want to see wine in anything but a bottle, with a cork in it. On the other hand, I can see the appeal for a lot of people in the accessibility and portability, as well as for people that may feel intimidated by their lack of knowledge about wine. The cans could have the effect of removing the, for lack of a better term, "snobbery" from wine. Encouraging those who might not have ever tried it, to try it.

NYWGF: What do you think makes New York wines special and/or distinct?

MR: The easy answer is the climate and terroir. However, the better answer I believe, on top of that, is the collaboration and cooperation between competing wineries and wine makers to collectively make a better product every year.