

## **IN SMALL BARRELS**

### ***Screenplay for a short film – 2009 Collio Cinema Award***

The story is set in the Friulian lands of Collio; events take place in the distant year 1722.

In those times, Carlo Goldoni was cruising through the Collio area on its way to Vipacco and had a taste of the local wine, finding in it a sagacious taste and the ability to bring a lot of merriness, to create a subtle and yet lively spirit in whoever drank from it... a superb wine called Picolit, spread throughout the world by Count Asquini to the point of eclipsing Hungarian Tokaj, much appreciated at the time.

Three characters are roaming through these hills: Zaccaria, a rugged, oafish drunkard, who somehow talked his nephew Quintino and Quintino's gorgeous sister Lucia into escorting him in his foolishness. His decisive argument was the promise of joys and riches as a result of their adventures, but very soon will Quintino and Lucia realize that the so-called adventures consist of stealing, drinking and scrounging meals to carry on and wander without a goal.

The main character, however, is the peculiar kind of wine that our three heroes manage to steal from a local tavern. The wine rests in a small (piccolo) barrel, or keg, which inspires Quintino to name the precious beverage, Piccolitto.

The three, while fleeing with their loot, follow some lights that lead them to Count Asquini's villa, where the Count is holding a masked ball. There they meet Carlo Goldoni, who earlier that afternoon had almost run them over while crossing the country at full speed on his carriage. They sneak into the ball, led by Goldoni and masked as a Harlequin (nephew), Pantalone (uncle) and a young bride (Lucia). At the ball they take a glimpse of an astonishing luxury they are not accustomed to. They get to know Count Asquini and a Hungarian count that is extremely jealous of his Tokaj wine and is accompanied by his splendid daughter.

It is at this ball that Asquini will appreciate the delicious taste of Picolit or Piccolitto and the vagabond youngster will discover the true pleasure of life and wits by sipping a glass of Picolit. In the end, Quintino and the daughter of the Hungarian will run away with Goldoni on his carriage, together with Lucia, who was eventually won over by Goldoni. Asquini will meet the local innkeeper, lone owner of the territory where the precious Picolit is made, will persuade him of the quality of his wine and they will spread it around the world, while the uncle and the Hungarian Count will be left with nothing but watching the carriage, respective families on board, headed toward real adventure.

*(Matteo Caenazzo & Giulio Kirchmayr, May 2009)*