

Dorothy Tchelistcheff remembers

5 Aug 2009 by Jancis Robinson

We went to take tea with a very old friend, Dorothy, widow of André Tchelistcheff, arguably the most charismatic and wisest winemaker the Napa Valley ever knew. She lives in east Napa and serves loose-leaf tea in beautiful Japanese teacups - a rare beast in North America. But she is also a repository of great wine experiences garnered while working at Beaulieu Vineyards herself and also while travelling the world of wine with the famous André.

Here she reminisces, and considers what he might have to say about Napa Valley today. Above is an image of him fashioned on one of his trips to Ornellaia as consultant to Lodovico Antinori, flanked by photographs of the sons of Joel Aikens, who recently retired from Beaulieu.