

PATRIARCH OF THE ARMENIAN COGNAC

Margar S. Sedrakian

By Igor G Grigorian



The beginning of cognac production in Armenia is closely connected to such people as Nerses Tairov and Nikolai Shustov. Shustov's *Fine Champaign Select* even received Grand Prix at 1900 International Exhibition in Paris, France during the blind testing. During the Soviet Era cognac production in Armenia flourished thanks to Grand Master Margar S. Sedrakian.

Born in 1907 in Kharakonis Village, Van Vilayet, Ottoman Empire, he was raised in an orphanage after his parents were massacred during the genocide.

His whole life M. Sedrakian devoted to creating vintage brands of the Armenian cognac. He “made French and the whole world to admit with surprise that cognac speaks perfect Armenian” and received the title of Knight of Tasting from major French cognac houses.



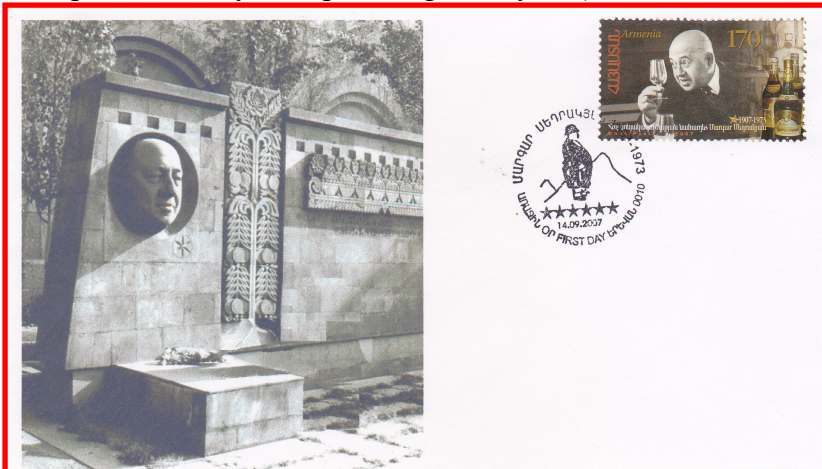
Here are the vintages created by the Master:

- 1937 - Jubilee (Hobelyanakan – 43 proof, aged over 10 years)
- 1939 – Selected (Entir – 40 proof, aged 7 years)
- 1940 – Armenia (45 proof, aged 10 years)
- 1941 – Artashat (see above, never created)
- 1942 – Dvin (50 proof, aged 10 years)
- 1947 – Yerevan (57 proof, aged 10 years)
- 1948 – Odessa
- 1949 – Ukraine
- 1955 – Festive (Tonakan – 42 proof, aged over 15 years)
- 1957 – 40-year old (40 proof)
- 1967 – Akhtamar (40 proof, aged 10 years)
- 1967 – 50-year old (40 proof)
- 1977 – Vaspurakan (created based on his recipe posthumously – 40 proof, aged 15 years)

Vintages created by Sedrakian. Registered letter sent from Artashat to Yerevan intercity in 2016. Note: top left stamp is a major error, missing color.



Yerevan Cognac Factory official mailing envelope. Registered letter sent Yerevan intercity in 2013



Monument to the Master on the wall of the ArArAt Brandy Factory



“It is said, that systematic consumption of Armenian cognacs makes a woman more handsome and beautiful, while makes a man brave and courageous as a tiger”

For more details on the Patriarch’s life and cognac production in Armenia please see Topical Time, 2021, September-October and November-December issues.