

MASSIMO

first a farmer, then a chef and finally a wine maker.



Labors & Days | Excerpts from

Nafplio: “She stirs up even the shiftless to toil; for a man grows eager to work when he considers his neighbour, a rich man who hastens to plough and plant and put his house in good order; and neighbour vies with his neighbour as he hurries after wealth. This Strife is wholesome for men...” line 15 (Works & Days)

Hesiod’s Works & Days is a cornerstone of western civilization. This foundational myth was contemporary with Homer marking the Archaic Age of Ancient Greece (circa 8th Century B.C.) and utilizing the epic dactylic hexameter - named for its resemblance to phalanges and passed on by oral tradition.

Hesiod’s more colorful composition, Theogony, can be thought of as a Book of Genesis as it addresses the birth of light & matter out of darkness & chaos - a Big Bang of creation, if you will, via the personified forces of the cosmos. An interesting parallel can be seen in the transition of subject matter for Works & Days: a didactic, pastoral poem detailing the labors & laws of man entrusted by the heavens, as well as the history & heroes of their society. Like Eve’s temptation of the Serpent, Works & Days features the tale of Pandora, but carries on poetically akin to the Book of Exodus as we discover the Five Ages of Man and importance of civil, moral, & divine rituals for their people.

Pertaining to Labor Day, honest, hard-work - such as farming - is seen as the ultimate virtue for an earthly existence in accordance to natural law; a good competition that promotes progress & prosperity versus a malevolent strife that causes envy & destruction. We are also blessed with some of the first semblance of eschatology, or ideas of afterlife, as Homer’s Iliad (c. 1260 BC). depicts the “Isles of the Blessed” on the edges of the earth for the Bronze Age demigods. It is worthy to note that the Old



Testament coincided in physical & temporal space with Ancient Greece as Hellenic cultures interacted with early Near Eastern communities into the annexation of Greece, Egypt, & the Holy Land by Romans in the 1st C B.C.; the logos of the first written Bible was in Greek codex prior to the Ecclesiastical Latin transliterations.



Chef's Selection

An homage to tradition, we offer the *Chef's Selection* option for an Omakase approach to the night: A Five course prix-fixe selection Quotidien created by your chef based on the market's freshest, most enticing ingredients paired with a complimentary glass per course

I:

Food & Wine

II:

Food & Wine

III:

Food & Wine

IV:

Food & Wine

V:

Food & Wine

In Vino Veritas: all wines paired today will be available at <https://onotria.com/shop> per request

The origin of the farmer's table was truly necessity as nature dictated the menu of the day. Whether it was converting figs to jam or getting to the watermelon before the crows and critters, the farmer's table was a reward for the literal fruits of your labor before they went to market and way to cool off with everybody over a meal after the day's fermenting hot sun.

