

Carpano Squared



This, in retrospect, is a play on the Perfect Martini. One that combines both dry and sweet vermouth. I came up with this idea after the vermouth seminar at Tales with Jared Brown. He had us combining various types of vermouth and discussing how to make them. After combining Carpano Dry and Carpano Bianco, I was hooked. These two styles of vermouth have become my go-

to for anything calling for 'dry.' At first the Carpano Bianco seems slightly sweeter than the usual premium dry vermouth. I attribute this to the rich wine flavor that comes through along with citrus and a little tropical fruit. The Carpano Dry is a bit surprising. The nose is wine, lemon, candied fruit and spices, but the taste is bone dry. Alone, or in combination, these fortified wines are amazing.

I like my martini's 2 1/2:1 or 3:1 Gin to Vermouth. Obviously you should use your favorite ratio. However you make them, try combining the Carpano Dry and Bianco 50/50 for the vermouth. I have tried this with Ford's, Plymouth, 209, Aviation, Hendrick's and Botanivore. I like them all!

When it comes to the garnish, I think that citrus and olives, individually or together, drastically alter this martini. I prefer one or two fresh herbs floating on the surface.

The Carpano Squared



- 1 1/2 oz. Gin – You're favorite premium brand
- 1/4 oz. Carpano Dry Vermouth
- 1/4 oz. Carpano Bianco Vermouth
- Fresh herbs such as thyme and/or sage

1. Chill a cocktail glass with ice and water
2. Combine the gin and vermouth's in a mixing glass with ice and stir to chill
3. Strain into chilled cocktail glass
4. Spank the fresh herbs and float them on the cocktail

Cheers!

Mélange d'Or

I enjoy gin drinks and bitter drinks. I also appreciate cocktails that are herbal and complex. The Mélange d'Or combines the flavors of Hendrick's Gin, Carpano Blanco, Carpano Dry and Tempus Fugit's Kina L Avion d'Or. Then I threw in Dale DeGroff's Pimento Aromatic Bitters for an additional level of complexity.



Here's the recipe:

- 2 oz. Hendrick's Gin
 - 1/4 oz. Carpano Dry
 - 1/4 oz. Carpano Blanco
 - 1/4 oz. Kina L Avion d'Or
 - 2 – 3 drops Dale DeGroff's Pimento Aromatic Bitters
 - Fresh Sage leaf or lemon peel for garnish
1. Chill a cocktail glass with ice and water
 2. Combine all of the ingredients, except the garnish, with ice in a mixing glass. Stir to chill
 3. Strain into chilled cocktail glass
 4. Garnish and serve

Cheers!

