

## Beer Phylogeny



Having finished putting together our beer phylogeny, we couldn't wait to try this Italian beauty, which amazingly combined all three of the major beer divisions we had identified. For inside the shapely brown bottle reposed a highly unusual blend of Belgian barleywine-style peated ale, Rauch Märzen aged in Scotch whisky barrels, and *Brett* beer. "Daydream," said the oversized cap. The head dissipated fast, as we'd expected from the *Brett* influence, and the dense, cloudy, yellowish liquid in our glasses gave off intensely aromatic odors of Cantal cheese, peat, and, of course, *Brettanomyces*. On the palate the *Brett*-y cacophony of flavors fascinated, while defying ready description. This clearly wasn't a beer for everyone, but it was certainly one to remember.

**T**he human mind has a deep-seated need to make connections, and many readers will have seen t-shirts and posters decorated with wonderful diagrams representing the genealogies of the