

The Burgundy Briefing

news, views and tastings

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Issue 7, September/October 2006

Tasting

A preview for the next issue – Domaine Leroy

In the main section of tasting notes in this issue, there are some red 2005s. However I felt that it was necessary to set Domaine Leroy apart as it is Côte de Nuits domaine.

After tasting at Domaine D'Auvenay, I followed Madame Bize to Vosne Romanée to taste 2005 reds at Domaine Leroy. The wine here was sensational, although sadly the tasting was too swift for me to take the usual in depth notes on my laptop. I have included my brief notes, but stress that this was a snapshot of the wines.

This is evidently going to be a splendid vintage for Domaine Leroy. The balance in these wine is excellent. The fruit is beautifully ripe, but not overly so and the acidity is surprisingly fresh. While being structured, the extraction is so carefully judged, that the results are beautifully refined. The tannins, even in the wines from Nuits-Saint-Georges, are elegant and the fruit is so pure.

Pommard, Les Vignots

Lovely fruit, luscious, soft, rich tannins and good depth. Very good

Nuits-Saint-Georges Aux Allots

More structural, very firm, fine-grained tannins and tight and focused on the finish. Particularly good.

***Vosne-Romanée, Aux Genevrières**

Beautifully supple, very vibrant, very clear fruit. Bright, pure and lively with excellent intensity and very good persistence. Fine.

Chambolle-Musigny, Les Fremières

Pure, lifted and very pretty with lovely fresh acidity and warm fruit. Very charming with a long and fluid finish. Particularly good to fine.

***Volnay, Santenots**

Rich and velvety fruit and supple ripe tannins. It has excellent depth of fruit, yet is not a whit heavy. The finish is long and juicy. Fine.

Savigny-Lès-Beaune, Les Narbantons

Slightly less appealing, although the fruit is attractive with a ripe redcurrant character and the palate is fresh. The tannins were not so fine. Good at most.

Nuits-Saint-Georges, Aux Vignerondes

Smooth and rounded tannins. Succulent dark fruit. The middle palate is slightly spicy and cushioned, but also nicely lifted with fresh acidity. Rather elegant and full on the finish. Particularly good.

Boudots

Darker, more brooding, richer and powerful with a chalky character to the middle. A sophisticated Boudots. A lovely long finish. Fine

Vosne-Romanée, Les Brûlées

Lovely, fine silky tannins. Wonderful texture but also pure, lifted and really very elegant. Long supple, fruit-driven finish. Delightful. Fine

***Vosne-Romanée, Les Beaumonts**

Lots of structure, but with elegance and finesse of tannins and fruit. Rich but not at all heavy, and a very long finish. Fine+

***Chambolle-Musigny, Les Charmes**

Lifted, charming, floral with a delicate chalkiness it and a racy character beneath the fruit. Lovely energetic wine with an excellent piano wire finish. So pure, so fine.

Gevrey-Chambertin, Aux Combottes

This has a haughtier structure. Refined, elegant, very well mannered with very good intensity of spicy black fruit, deep, layered, balanced powerful and more grounded. Fine.

Corton, Renardes

Rich, structured, deeply concentrated, dark and mineral, but not of the standard of the following wines.

****Romanée-Saint-Vivant**

This has great finesse and finely grained tannins. It has an engaging reserve, unfolding quietly across the palate combining delicacy with great intensity and depth. Wonderfully moulded and perfectly balanced. The finish flows on and on. Just sublime...Outstanding.

****Richebourg**

Opulence and steel. Architectural and fine. The powerful palate soars. Outstanding, but I preferred the Romanée-Saint-Vivant.

Clos De Vougeot

Much more brutal, solid, intense; massively intense. Fine

***Musigny**

Filigree complexity. So intense and mineral. Structure and finesse. Coiled. Very fine.

Clos De La Roche

Massively compact and concentrated; It is a powerhouse of a wine, while showing all the energy and lifted charm evident in all these wines. This is extraordinarily long on the finish...fine to very fine.

***Latricières-Chambertin**

The shows the most elegant, fret work structure; finely honed, crisply cut and so delicate but strong. Another fabulous finish. Very fine indeed.

****Chambertin**

This is perfectly balanced and defined. More powerful than the Latricières. Tense with compact energy. Outstanding.

Corton-Charlemagne

Very structural, powerful, mineral and massively intense. Certainly fine

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