KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

JANUARY 2023



Marco Tintero © Anthony Lynch

NEBBIOLO YOU CAN DRINK NOW LOOKING FORWARD: 12-BOTTLE SAMPLER NORTHERN RHÔNE • BEAUJOLAIS • LIGURIA

LOOKING FORWARD

12-BOTTLE SAMPLER

by Anthony Lynch

ACH MONTH LAST YEAR, we featured a different producer in the segment of our newsletter titled "Looking Forward." The twelve domaines—most of them new to the portfolio—illustrate the exciting developments taking place in the wine world today, fifty years since KLWM's inception.

In addition to introducing new faces, we wanted to highlight the next generation coming of age in France and Italy's vineyards. Forward-thinking young vignerons are tackling contemporary issues, namely climate change, head on, thinking creatively to adapt their farming and winemaking sustainably. At the same time, new regions are emerging as serious producers of fine wine, and it's been our pleasure to share appellations and styles never before seen in these pages.

This sampler of whites, reds, and a rosé features one wine from each "Looking Forward" domaine in order to give you a taste of what the future holds at KLWM. Spoiler alert: there is plenty of great wine in the future.

2021 Jurançon Sec "Météore" • Clos Larrouyat . . . \$34.00 2018 Côtes de Provence Rouge • Clos Saint-Joseph 55.00 2019 TERRE SICILIANE NERELLO MASCALESE "Lato Sud" • Grottafumata 45.00 2020 Langhe Nebbiolo "Pian delle Mole" 2019 BORDEAUX BLANC "DÉFINITION" • ALLIANCE 48.00 2020 ETNA ROSSO "SCIARE VIVE" • VIGNETI VECCHIO 40.00 2020 Petit Chablis • Roland Lavantureux 31.00 2021 PATRIMONIO ROSÉ "AGRIATE" • GIACOMETTI. 25.00 2021 VALLE D'ITRIA BIANCO "FARAONE" • I PÁSTINI. 24.00 2020 VACQUEYRAS "DOUCINELLO" • SANG DES CAILLOUX 2020 VERDICCHIO DEI CASTELLI DI JESI "CAPOVOLTO" La Marca di San Michele 2020 ISOLA DEI NURAGHI ROSSO "FAMILIA" Deperu Holler Normally \$442.00

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE \$349

(a 20% discount)



Top row: Maxime and Lucie Salharang of Clos Larrouyat; Roch Sassi and Constance Malengé of Clos Saint-Joseph; Mauro Cutuli of Grottafumata. Second row: Giulia Negri; Daniel Alibrand of Domaine de l'Alliance; Carmelo Vecchio of Vigneti Vecchio. Third row: David and Arnaud Lavantureux; Simon Giacometti; Gianni Carparelli of I Pástini. Fourth row: Serge Férigoule of Le Sang des Cailloux; Daniela Quaresima of La Marca di San Michele; Tatiana Holler and Carlo Deperu.

Photos: Gail Skoff, Dixon Brooke, Anthony Lynch, Our wonderful producers

THE BEST VALUES OF 2023

(SO FAR)

by Jane Augustine, KLWM NEW YORK

2021 CUSTOZA "GREOTO" • CORTE GARDONI

The Piccoli brothers are true farmers. They grow a variety of produce on their remote bit of land in the Veneto—apples, olives, grapes—and we proudly import their wines in every color. Greoto flaunts a blend of several local varieties that age briefly in stainless steel and are bottled in late winter to preserve all the bite, minerality, and zest that northern Italy delivers in spades. It makes for a fitting aperitivo, but pairing it with prosciutto and melon or a pasta al limone really does it justice.

\$16.00 PER BOTTLE

\$172.80 PER CASE

2021 VIN DE PAYS DE VAUCLUSE ROUGE SELECTED BY KERMIT LYNCH

I love a cool, light-bodied red, but with the arrival of early sunsets and long winter nights, I want to cozy up to one thing: an inky-dark *rouge* from a rustic terroir. I'm craving wines I can sink my teeth into, ones that deliver all the warmth and character of the sunbaked, shrubby terroir from which they sprang. This Vaucluse *rouge*, featuring plummy black fruit and surprisingly silky texture, is great with any wintry dish. If you are looking for suggestions, though, try it with flank steak drizzled in chimichurri or a smoky, charred-eggplant ratatouille—perfect for when it's a bit nippy outside.

\$16.00 PER BOTTLE

\$172.80 PER CASE

2021 CORSE CALVI ROUGE "CLOS REGINU" DOMAINE MAESTRACCI

Seeing a Corsican wine on offer in a section devoted to values may be enough to pique your interest, but there's more to love about Clos Reginu than its price tag. High-toned and velvety, it's made from the fruit of young, energetic vines, including southern French varieties like Syrah, Grenache, and Mourvèdre, as well as local grapes like Niellucciu and Sciaccarellu. The latter two varieties, along with the cool microclimate of Calvi and its proximity to the sea, differentiate this wine from what you might find in mainland France. It's like looking at a familiar landscape, only wind-swept and a touch overgrown.

\$21.00 PER BOTTLE

\$226.80 PER CASE

NEBBIOLO YOU CAN DRINK NOW

by Anthony Lynch

2019 BARBARESCO • TINTERO

If you've searched for—and found—incredible Italian values in our shop, chances are you have drunk one of Marco Tintero's creations. Marco—the bon vivant pictured on this month's cover—excels in the "weeknight" category with his festive whites, reds, and *rosato*, but he also exhibits mastery of Piemonte's more prestigious appellations. This release marks a breakthrough for his Barbaresco, a wine he produces in tiny batches each year



from the famous *crus* Balluri and Bricco di Neive. It is a Barbaresco you can dig into right away, full of sumptuous dark berry fruit with spicy hints of clove and a strikingly elegant finish. No cellaring necessary, but a good decant will go a long way.

\$35.00 PER BOTTLE

\$378.00 PER CASE

2018 BAROLO "LAZZAIRASCO" GUIDO PORRO



A steep, imposing amphitheater sloping up toward the hilltop fortress of Serralunga d'Alba, the Lazzairasco vineyard is the source of some of Guido Porro's most complex and long-lived wines. But that doesn't mean you can't enjoy them right away, as is the case with this latest release from the excellent 2018 vintage. Its tannins are already delightfully supple and its fragrant bouquet leaves nothing more to be desired, offering gorgeous aromas of orange zest, faded roses, and a hint of cinnamon stick. Guido is a man of few words, and when I asked his thoughts on the 2018 Lazzairasco, he declared stoically that he considered it a *buona annata*. I pushed

on, inquiring how it compares to other highly acclaimed years such as 2016 and 2019. He simply shrugged. "Those were also *buone annate*."

\$63.00 PER BOTTLE

\$680.40 PER CASE

GRANGE SAINT-SAUVEUR

by Dixon Brooke

ANTOINE POUPONNEAU and Alice Gitton created this micro-domaine from scratch, purchasing and renting small parcels of ancient vines in great terroirs along the Loire River near the town of Le Thoureil, halfway between Angers and Saumur. All of their vineyards are worked organically, and their spontaneously fermented wines are aged in wood in the tiny chapel next to their home.

2021 VIN DE FRANCE ROUGE "LE MARTRAY"

This playful blend of Grolleau Noir, Grolleau Gris, and Gamay is the domaine's earliest-drinking red cuvée, with soft edges that take a chill well. The new vintage shows great freshness and brightness, making me think of tart berries picked in the forest just a touch below full ripeness. The seeds are there, too, and add a pleasant crunch. A vein of chalk on the finish wraps it together nicely and reminds you where you are—the glorious *tuffeau* cliffs on the banks of the mighty Loire.

\$49.00 PER BOTTLE

\$529.20 PER CASE

2020 VIN DE FRANCE ROSÉ "LES ARCEAUX"

Grolleau Noir and Gris are pressed directly to produce this rosé's deep, winey salmon-orange/pink color that is a glory to behold in the glass. The complex nose is studded with cinnamon sticks, cloves, orange peel, and fresh strawberries. Intensely dry and mineral, the structured Les Arceaux is a bottle to pair with a meal rather than to drink as an apéritif. It is a shining example of our long-standing quest to convince you that rosé is another arrow in the quiver of food-pairing possibilities year-round, not just a poolside quaffer!

\$49.00 PER BOTTLE

\$529.20 PER CASE

2020 VIN DE FRANCE *BLANC* "CHENIN CENTENAIRE"

The only white wine the domaine produces is named after their parcel of Chenin Blanc vines that are all more than one hundred years old, planted on a gently sloping limestone hillside. This little corner of France produces some of the most exciting Chenin Blanc in the world, and this gem is brilliant proof. Golden, honeyed, ambrosial aromas invite you to dive in deeply, and you are greeted by a full-bodied and flamboyant palate with intense raciness and cut on the long,

sculpted finish. This is a *grand cru* from the Loire that leaves no doubt as to why the white-grape trilogy of Chenin, Chardonnay, and Riesling competes in the hearts and minds of wine lovers.

\$66.00 PER BOTTLE

\$712.80 PER CASE

2019 VIN DE FRANCE ROUGE "CLANDESTINE"

The domaine's flagship red is made primarily from Grolleau Noir, with some Cabernet Franc, and comes from a parcel of vines overlooking the Loire where Alice used to play as a child behind her parents' home. The most structured of their reds, Clandestine showcases the more serious side of Grolleau paired with the intensity of Cabernet Franc grown in the clay and limestone belt of noble soils in the central Loire. While we typically see Grolleau made in a more fruitforward and easy-drinking style, this bottling offers a great opportunity to experience the grape when sourced from very old vines in a top-notch terroir. The juicy, plush fruit is still there, but it is supported by solid tannins, invigorating freshness and energy, and a beautifully etched, chalky finish.

\$59.00 PER BOTTLE

\$637.20 PER CASE



Alice Gitton and Antoine Pouponneau

© Dixon Brooke

CRU BEAUJOLAIS

by Dustin Soiseth

2021 CÔTE-DE-BROUILLY NICOLE ET ROMAIN CHANRION

If this wine was a stock, it would outperform the market every year—a real blue chip. From her hillside vineyard on the slopes of Mont Brouilly, Nicole Chanrion crafts delicious Beaujolais the traditional way, by hand-harvesting, fermenting with whole clusters, and patiently aging in large oak *foudres*. In investing, they say that past performance is not an indicator of future success, but it's hard to argue with a track record that spans six generations.

\$28.00 PER BOTTLE

\$302.40 PER CASE

2021 MOULIN-À-VENT "VIEILLES VIGNES" DOMAINE DIOCHON



You may have heard the term "noble rot" in reference to a certain type of mold growing on grape bunches that can lead to glorious dessert wines. Well, Diochon's Moulin-à-Vent has "noble stemminess." The domaine's traditional whole-cluster vinification—bunches of grapes still attached to the stems are tossed into the vat—

yields a glorious woodsiness that spices up the nose, enlivens the wine's juicy red berry fruit, and freshens the pleasingly tannic finish.

\$29.00 PER BOTTLE

\$313.20 PER CASE

2021 FLEURIE "LES MORIERS" DOMAINE CHIGNARD

After three unusually warm vintages, 2021 saw a return to a more classic style of Gamay. The vines—some over one hundred years old—of Chignard's Les Moriers produced vibrant red fruit with autumnal earthiness and mouthwatering acidity. This wine is built for food. The beef stew in Alice Waters's *The Art of Simple Food* would be a particularly good pairing.

\$31.00 PER BOTTLE

\$334.80 PER CASE

NORTHERN RHÔNE

by Chris Santini, KLWM BEAUNE

2018 SAINT-JOSEPH ROUGE DOMAINE JEAN-CLAUDE MARSANNE

Pour yourself a little glass of history with this one, a splash of the original "Vin de Mauves," the centuries-old and nearly forgotten name given to the famed wines of the small slope above the village. Several vineyards on this hillside, including the Saint-Joseph parcel (which provided the name for this appellation that now covers a whopping twenty-six villages near and far), have been farmed by the Marsanne family for generations. The violets, tapenade, and juicy black fruit in your glass is much unchanged from how it's always been (and should be). The vines are still worked by hand, the wines still fermented with indigenous yeasts, the aging still done two years in old oak barrels before release. A delightfully old-fashioned *rouge* from the cradle of Saint-Joseph.

\$55.00 PER BOTTLE

\$594.00 PER CASE

2020 CONDRIEU • LIONEL FAURY

Viognier? No, thanks. Condrieu? Ah, okay, you've got my attention. Faury's Condrieu? Well, why didn't you say so in the first place? Fill 'er up! Much as one could argue that Raveneau does not make Chardonnay, but rather Chablis, I would say that Faury does not make Viognier, but rather one hell of a Condrieu, replete with huge apricot and peach aromas and a fresh, regal palate.

\$69.00 PER BOTTLE

\$745.20 PER CASE

2019 CÔTE RÔTIE "LA BOISSELÉE" BARRUOL / LYNCH

Louis Barruol first began making Côte Rôtie back in 1997. He says that the twenty-five vintages he's produced since then have convinced him that the warmer vintages (such as 2019) are ideal for the "roasted slope," as the name implies. This terroir is made to take heat, absorb it, and transform it into something of tremendous charm and mystery. To Louis, this vintage evokes the greats—2007, 1999, and 1991—and he wonders out loud if this terroir isn't the grandest one this warming planet has to offer. Quite a bold thought, yet quite a bold wine. It might not take more than a sniff and a sip to be convinced.

\$94.00 PER BOTTLE

\$1,015.20 PER CASE

SPARKLING, WHITE, AND RED FROM LIGURIA

by Tom Wolf

2021 COLLINE SAVONESI ROSATO "PETTIROSSO ALLEGRO" • PUNTA CRENA

If you're setting wine goals for yourself in 2023, allow me to suggest one: look to regions outside of Champagne and Prosecco and sample their most highly recommended sparkling wines. You'll discover how delicious—and full of value—such bottles from less-trodden areas can be. Start with Punta Crena's charming and festive Pettirosso Allegro, an effervescent *rosato* whose crisp acidity and generous flavors of cranberries and blood orange present the perfect way to start an evening.

\$26.00 PER BOTTLE

\$280.80 PER CASE

2021 RIVIERA LIGURE DI PONENTE PIGATO "VIGNETO CA DA RENA" • PUNTA CRENA

We import Vermentinos from all over Mediterranean France and Italy, but this is the only Pigato—Vermentino's speckled twin—we import. A specialty of Liguria, Pigato often yields *bianchi* with a little more heft and texture, traits embodied by Punta Crena's 2021 rendition. Zesty and faintly saline, this mediumbodied beauty is begging to be opened the next time you make shrimp tacos or *spaghetti alle vongole*.

\$34.00 PER BOTTLE

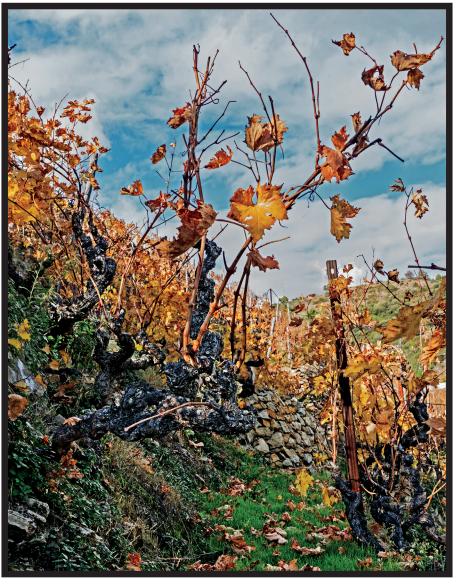
\$367.20 PER CASE

2018 ROSSESE DI DOLCEACQUA SUPERIORE TENUTA ANFOSSO

While Punta Crena offers many tastes of the Ligurian coast, Tenuta Anfosso delivers the ultimate expression of more inland Liguria, with its vineyards planted along hillsides so steep they confirm the Alps are close by. Today, Alessandro Anfosso serves as a beacon of traditional, everything-done-by-hand agriculture in this slice of the region, farming Rossese vines up to 135 years old. With its elegant notes of rose petals, red fruit, and spice, his Superiore bottling is the perfect introduction to the family's lineup and the Dolceacqua sliver of Liguria.

\$36.00 PER BOTTLE

\$388.80 PER CASE



Anfosso's ancient Rossese vines

© Gail Skoff

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n addition to the three cru Beaujolais featured on page 8, we've received many other stunning 2021s from this region. Crus from Guy Breton, Domaine Chignard, Quentin Harel, Charly Thévenet, and more are now available and tasting great. Share in the bounty that Beaujolais has to offer!

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