

KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

DECEMBER 2013



© Gail Skoff

GIFTS FOR ALL ■ NEW WINE, OLD WINE
MAGNUMS & DESSERT WINE SALE

NEW WINE, OLD WINE

Dear Fine Wine Drinking Public,

We share a passionate conviction that the finest examples from Italy and France are the most interesting, satisfying wines to be found, and in terms of diversity and value . . . no contest!! Our focus is selecting great producers, getting their treasures to you in perfect condition, and ceaselessly searching for new glitter to add to our portfolio. This year has been particularly transformative in terms of the latter. We are, of course, excited to share these new wines with you, and we can't wait to unveil a few more early next year.

We also continue our efforts to unearth vintage treasures from the cellars of our producers, and while we may not have the deepest selection of old vintages compared to some merchants, we choose to source only direct from the grower. It is really a simple choice for us, because with fine wine, we believe that the only thing more important than the name of the grower is the provenance of the bottle. So, provenance guaranteed, impeccable storage and shipping conditions equal zero risk for you.

Feast your eyes on our December selection of vintage gems. You may never see these wines offered again, anywhere. Some of them were purchased from the European direct-from-domaine stocks of esteemed fellow importer Robert Chadderdon following his recent retirement from the wine and spirits business, and they wear his import strip.

Here's to the small pleasures that can ornament the tree of life.

For fine wine,

Dixon Brooke and Kermit Lynch

OLD WINES

POGGIO DI SOTTO

From the greatest *terroir* in Montalcino, these vintages have a head start on their way to peak maturity.



	PER BOTTLE
2006 ROSSO DI MONTALCINO.	\$85.00
2006 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO RISERVA	247.00
2005 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO RISERVA	220.00
2004 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO MAGNUM.	400.00
2001 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO	150.00
2000 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO	150.00

MAUME

New allocations from Burgundy traditionalist Bertrand Maume. Pinot Noir with soul!

2009 MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN	\$212.00
2008 BOURGOGNE <i>ROUGE</i>	29.00
2007 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN "LAVAUX SAINT-JACQUES"	108.00
2006 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN "CHAMPEAUX"	89.00
2006 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN	52.00
2001 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN "EN PALLUD"	65.00

DOMAINE DE CHERISEY

From the high altitudes of the Côte d'Or just above Puligny-Montrachet and Meursault, the magical *terroir* of Blagny produces some of Burgundy's most mesmerizing, long-lived wines.

2008 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET "HAMEAU DE BLAGNY"	\$87.00
2008 MEURSAULT-BLAGNY "LA GENELOTTE"	87.00
2007 BLAGNY <i>ROUGE</i> "LA GENELOTTE"	49.00
2004 MEURSAULT-BLAGNY "LA GENELOTTE"	90.00
2004 BLAGNY <i>ROUGE</i> "LA GENELOTTE"	69.00
1999 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET "HAMEAU DE BLAGNY"	140.00



CHÂTEAU COMBAUDE-GUILLOT

Topflight aristocratic Pomerol grown organically and sold at a fraction of its true value. Our advice? Jump on it before they're gone!



2006 POMEROL	\$66.00
2001 POMEROL	76.00
2000 POMEROL	76.00
2000 POMEROL <i>MAGNUM</i>	156.00
1998 POMEROL	76.00
1998 POMEROL <i>MAGNUM</i>	170.00
1995 POMEROL <i>MAGNUM</i>	170.00
1994 POMEROL <i>MAGNUM</i>	131.00



CHÂTEAU D'ÉPIRÉ

In the twenties and thirties, Épiré sold at the same price as Yquem. We won't be shy about it—this is the ultimate in terms of Chenin Blanc from schist.



	PER BOTTLE
2007 SAVENNIÈRES “CUVÉE SPÉCIALE”	\$40.00
2005 SAVENNIÈRES <i>SEC</i>	35.00
2002 SAVENNIÈRES “CUVÉE SPÉCIALE”	45.00
1997 SAVENNIÈRES <i>SEC</i>	45.00
1991 SAVENNIÈRES “CUVÉE SPÉCIALE”	66.00

BERNARD FAURIE

The last of the Mohicans? Bernard Faurie, a lovely man, farms one-hundred-year-old vines on the Hermitage slope and produces majestic, *terroir*-driven wines that bring glory to this great appellation.

2007 HERMITAGE <i>ROUGE</i> “BESSARDS/MÉAL”	\$120.00
2007 HERMITAGE <i>ROUGE</i> “GREFFIEUX/BESSARDS”	105.00
2005 HERMITAGE <i>ROUGE</i> “GREFFIEUX/BESSARDS”	125.00
2004 HERMITAGE <i>ROUGE</i> “BESSARDS/MÉAL”	125.00

MORE VINTAGE SELECTIONS

2007 BAROLO • BARTOLO MASCARELLO	\$125.00
2006 BANDOL <i>ROUGE</i> • DOMAINE DE TERREBRUNE	48.00
2005 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO • SALVIONI	166.00
2004 NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES “LES CHAIGNOTS”	
ROBERT CHEVILLON	89.00
2001 BANDOL <i>ROUGE</i> • DOMAINE DE TERREBRUNE	85.00
2001 BAROLO • A. & G. FANTINO	50.00
1996 BOURGUEIL “LES PERRIÈRES”	
CATHERINE & PIERRE BRETON	77.00



NEW WINES

ALBERT BOXLER



If you've got a good friend, give him or her a bottle of that 2008
Sélection de Grains Nobles. You'll make a lasting impression.

PER BOTTLE

2011 EDELZWICKER RÉSERVE	\$24.00
2011 GEWURZTRAMINER RÉSERVE	45.00
2011 RIESLING SOMMERBERG <i>GRAND CRU</i>	75.00
2011 PINOT GRIS BRAND <i>GRAND CRU</i>	75.00
2008 PINOT GRIS SOMMERBERG <i>GRAND CRU</i> SGN 500 ML . .	100.00

BÉNÉDICTE ET GRÉGOIRE HUBAU

The anti-Bordeaux Bordeaux. Bénédicte and Grégoire's Château Moulin produces "natural" wines with an uncommon twist: longevity and precision.

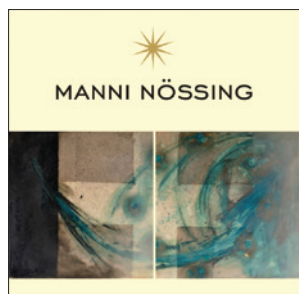
2010 CANON FRONSAC • CHÂTEAU MOULIN	\$28.00
2010 FRONSAC CUVÉE "PIVERTS" • CHÂTEAU MOULIN	28.00*

*Un sulfured cuvée

ANDRÉ PERRET

Here you'll discover perfection from the northern Rhône. Can a perfectionist have soul? Oh, baby!

2011 SAINT-JOSEPH <i>BLANC</i>	\$38.00
2011 CONDRIEU "CHÉRY".	77.00
2011 SAINT-JOSEPH <i>ROUGE</i>	37.00



MANNI NÖSSING

Pure as the driven snow: *vino bianco* from Italy's northernmost wine region. Geographically, at least, Manni looks down upon the others.

2012 KERNER	\$30.00
2012 GRÜNER VELTLINER	30.00

FATTORIA MORETTO

Lambrusco (dry Italian sparkling red wine) like you've never experienced it! This is also the first discovery added to our portfolio by Mr. Anthony Lucien Lynch. Ask him and he'll tell you all about it.



PER BOTTLE

2012 LAMBRUSCO <i>SECCO</i>	\$18.00
2012 LAMBRUSCO <i>SECCO</i> "MONOVITIGNO" . . .	24.00

CHÂTEAU FEUILLET

Kermit imported a wine from the picturesque Valle d'Aosta back in the late seventies, and everyone said, "SO WHAT!" Don't let that happen to Dixon Brooke, who turned up these two beauties.

2012 VALLE D'AOSTA "TORRETTE"	\$24.00
2012 VALLE D'AOSTA "PETITE ARVINE"	28.00

CLOS CANARELLI

Abbatucci and Canarelli, the cutting edge not only in Corsica—who do you think placed the rings around Saturn? And biodynamically, no less!



2012 CORSE FIGARI ROSÉ	\$35.00
2012 CORSE FIGARI <i>BLANC</i>	47.00
2011 CORSE FIGARI <i>ROUGE</i>	43.00
2010 CARCAGHJOLU NERU	90.00
2010 TARRA D'ORASI <i>ROUGE</i>	112.00

GIUSEPPE QUINTARELLI

The Maestro of the Veneto. But listen, Abbatucci, Canarelli, Quintarelli . . . Maybe you should drop by and pick up some wine for the holidays.

2012 BIANCO <i>SECCO</i> CÀ DEL MERLO	\$42.00
2004 ROSSO CÀ DEL MERLO	85.00
2003 AMABILE DEL CERÈ "BANDITO" <i>TENTH</i>	265.00
2001 RECIOTO DELLA VALPOLICELLA CLASSICO <i>TENTH</i>	185.00

*PLUS, Cellar Selection: 2000 Amarone della Valpolicella,
now taking requests. Wine arrives in mid-December!*

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION ADVENTURES ON THE WINE ROUTE SAMPLER

THE NEW EDITION of Kermit's *Adventures* came out last month, and now we have a sampler to guide you as you read along. One book and six wines (one rosé, one white, four red) from producers that Kermit visits in the book: Charles Joguet, Château d'Epiré, Domaine de Fontaine, Guy Breton, Vieux Télégraphe, and Domaine Tempier. This might just be the perfect gift for a wine-loving friend.

Normally \$204.95

SPECIAL 6-BOTTLE AND A BOOK SAMPLER PRICE

\$154
(a 25% discount)

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Consider a KLWM gift certificate. Dial 510.524.1524, order the certificate in any denomination you desire, and charge it to your credit card. We'll even mail it for you and include a gift card if you like. The certificates look classy—but of course!—and in our experience people are very happy to receive one.

HOLIDAY GIFT SAMPLER

IT IS ALWAYS A JOY to put together the twelve bottles for our annual Holiday Gift Sampler. We do this with one simple goal in mind: to showcase the incredible variety and value of the wines we import. This sampler spans France and Italy, including selections from Alsace, Beaujolais, Languedoc, Loire, Piedmont, Provence, Tuscany, and the Veneto, with wines ranging from \$12.95 to \$35.00.

Normally \$226.75

SPECIAL 12-BOTTLE SAMPLER PRICE **\$159**
(a 30% discount)

🍷 DINNER PARTY SAMPLERS 🍷

In July we brought you casual and formal picnic samplers. With winter in full swing, culinary proclivities have moved indoors. We now present you with the Casual and Formal Dinner Party Samplers.

CASUAL DINNER PARTY SAMPLER

FOR THOSE MIDWEEK, informal get-togethers, we've put together six wines to take you through the course of any evening. We begin with a sparkler from Liguria, a refreshing white from Piedmont, and a classy and crisp Mâcon. For reds we have Kermit's Côtes du Rhône, a bright *rosso* from Bardolino, and Beaujolais.

Normally \$86.85

SPECIAL 6-BOTTLE SAMPLER PRICE **\$65**
(a 25% discount)

FORMAL DINNER PARTY SAMPLER

WHEN YOU'D LIKE TO TREAT yourself and those close to you with a special dinner, these are the wines you'll want on hand. Start the evening with rosé Champagne and then move on to a dry Riesling and Savennières. Options for red abound with *cru* Beaujolais from Régnié, a single-vineyard Chinon, and Gigondas.

Normally \$235.00

SPECIAL 6-BOTTLE SAMPLER PRICE **\$176**
(a 25% discount)

BIG BOTTLES

BIG BOTTLES OF WINE look great under a tree and on the holiday dinner table. To prime your gift-giving instincts, we're providing a little enticement to consider large formats in your holiday planning:

Purchase three or more of our magnums and receive 20% off

PER MAGNUM

2010 CAHORS • CLOS LA COUTALE	\$32.00
PROSECCO SUPERIORE BRUT • SOMMARIVA	32.00
2010 CORBIÈRES <i>ROUGE</i> "LA DEMOISELLE" • FONTSAINTE	39.00
2012 CÔTE DE BROUILLY • CHÂTEAU THIVIN	56.00
2011 VACQUEYRAS • SANG DES CAILLOUX	70.00
2009 BANDOL <i>ROUGE</i> • DOMAINE DU GROS 'NORÉ	79.00
2011 AUXEY-DURESSSES <i>BLANC</i> "LES HAUTÉS" • VINCENT	97.00
2009 GIGONDAS "TERRASSE DU DIABLE" • LES PALLIÈRES	99.00
2005 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO • SESTI	165.00
2009 CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PÂPE • VIEUX TÉLÉGRAPHE	174.00

SPLURGE ON DESSERT WINE

TIS THE SEASON TO INDULGE, and few culinary delights are as decadent as dessert wines. Available now, we have some classics: Sauternes, Beaumes-de-Venise, and Vouvray. But don't miss Banyuls, the ethereal wines of Domaine de L'Alliance, and a highly prized rarity from Alsace—Sélection de Grains Nobles. We'll make it easy on you:

During the month of December, 20% off per bottle

PER BOTTLE

2011 MUSCAT DE BEAUMES-DE-VENISE 375 ML • DURBAN	\$16.00
2011 SAUTERNES 375 ML • CHÂTEAU ROÛMIEU-LACOSTE	24.00
2011 BANYULS "RIMAGE" 500 ML • DOMAINE LA TOUR VIEILLE	24.00
2011 VOUVRAY "LA MOELLEUSE" 500 ML • CHAMPALOU	35.00
2011 SAUTERNES 750 ML • CHÂTEAU ROÛMIEU-LACOSTE	39.00
2010 SAUTERNES 500 ML • DOMAINE DE L'ALLIANCE	48.00
2009 VIN DE FRANCE "HÉRÉTHIQUE" 500 ML • L'ALLIANCE	53.00
2008 GEWÜRZTRAMINER GRAND CRU BRAND VT 500 ML	
ALBERT BOXLER	60.00
2008 PINOT GRIS SOMMERBERG GRAND CRU SGN 500 ML	
ALBERT BOXLER	100.00

BURGUNDY, YOUNG AND OLD

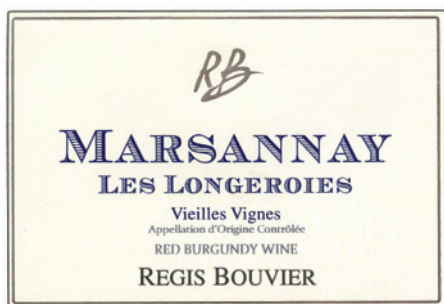
by Anthony Lynch

2011 MARSANNAY ROUGE “LES LONGEROIES” RÉGIS BOUVIER

Each year, Régis Bouvier’s Marsannay bottlings earn him many new fans while proving that you don’t have to spend top dollar to get top red Burgundy. Les Longeroies, from vines planted half a century ago on a limestone slope just outside the city limits of Dijon, showcases pure, elegant Pinot Noir fruit with a mouthwatering touch of sanguinity that really gets the heart racing. Régis makes wines that will easily age and improve for several years, but the carnal thrill that his Marsannay elicits right now makes it difficult to resist.

\$33.00 PER BOTTLE

\$356.40 PER CASE



2011 POUILLY-FUISSÉ “LA CROIX” DOMAINE ROBERT-DENOGENT

For great Burgundy values, Domaine Robert-Denogent is at the top of the list. Buy their wines because, like me, you can’t afford the whites from Puligny or Meursault just to the north. Or, buy their wines because you are curious to see what happens when eighty-year-old Chardonnay from a schist *terroir* unique to this part of Burgundy is fermented naturally and bottled by a great artisan vigneron. It’s well worth the price.

\$39.00 PER BOTTLE

\$421.20 PER CASE



2011 ALOXE-CORTON 1ER CRU “LES VERCOTS”
DOMAINE FOLLIN-ARBELET



My tasting at Domaine Follin-Arbelet last summer was a true revelation. The domaine represents the type of small, family-run operation that continues to make wine *comme autrefois*—the way it used to be done, which is the way we like it. In Burgundy, this means farming several minuscule plots with the goal of revealing the distinctive characteristics of each, to highlight that vineyard’s *terroir*. Les Vercots combines vivid, bright fruit—think fresh sour cherry—with soulful depth and a tight-knit structure. I have a feeling that you’ll be as excited as I was when you first try the domaine’s classic Pinot Noirs.

\$74.00 PER BOTTLE

\$799.20 PER CASE

1999 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU
“HAMEAU DE BLAGNY”
DOMAINE DE CHERISEY

An aged white Burgundy is the *crème de la crème* in the world of fine wines, especially when it’s made by one of the best in the game. At Cherisey, the specialty is wines that express *terroir* with real class and finesse. We are excited to offer this older vintage, which is currently at its very peak of pleasure-inducing, awe-inspiring sumptuousness. With the painstaking aging process out of the way, all there is left to do is pull the cork and dive in, and savor every drop. Only a few cases available.

\$140.00 PER BOTTLE

\$1,512.00 PER CASE

2006 GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 1ER CRU
“CHAMPEAUX” • DOMAINE MAUME

We love Domaine Maume for their intense, masculine Gevreys—the kind you wouldn’t want to run into in a dark alley. They are also known to age spectacularly, and I can tell you from experience that an old bottle tastes great alongside a Thanksgiving turkey or a Christmas roast. At the moment, the 2006 vintage from this higher-elevation parcel is showing superbly, characterized by the earthy flavors you expect in fine aged Pinot Noir, laced with gamey blue and red fruit that captures the vibrancy of youth. Never pass up an old bottle of Maume.

\$89.00 PER BOTTLE

\$961.20 PER CASE

LASSALLE'S CACHET OR A GIRL'S (OR GUY'S) BEST FRIEND

by Kate MacWilliamson

I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I met the Lassalle women. It was at a tasting in a hotel that was as elegant and fashionable as the women and their wines. I was intimidated, to say the least. Imagine three generations of beautiful, strong, and intelligent women working together to craft wine that is both classically refined and ready for modern times. My heart swooned after tasting through their line—the flawless blend of energy and richness. Where had they been all my life?

Their Cachet Or, or “Golden Seal,” bottling particularly stood out and not just because of the ridiculously affordable price tag. Equal parts Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Meunier, this wine has everything you want in a great Champagne. It is the perfect companion—lively, nutty, and soft—the kind you want to start the day with over breakfast and enjoy all the way through until the wee hours of the night. Try a bottle, or three, and see for yourself.



DECEMBER SPECIAL

NV BRUT “CACHET OR” • J. LASSALLE

\$35.00 PER BOTTLE



Four generations of Lassalles

© Michel Boudot

ITALIA

by Dixon Brooke

2012 MONFERRATO ROSSO TENUTA LA PERGOLA

Our very own go-to house pour is from Italy's Monferrato hills, northeast of the Barolo zone. This beautiful red gives balance, freshness, and plenty of intellectual interest despite its easy-drinking personality. It is playful *and* serious, a blend of traditional northern Italian varieties—local Barbera for energy, Barbera from Asti for a deep-fruited core, Freisa for perfume, and Bonarda for tannin. I like it served cool, and it is what is known as a food-friendly wine.

\$12.00 PER BOTTLE **\$129.60** PER CASE

2011 MONTELECCIO • SESTI

We have been eagerly awaiting the new vintage of our most popular Tuscan red, having long ago sold out of the 2010. It is an unheard-of rarity—a pure Sangiovese from fruit in the Montalcino zone at a remarkably low price. The Sesti family grows the grapes and makes the wine as if it were destined to be labeled Brunello, and their care and pride are evident. Elegant yet structured, fruit-driven and perfumed, this Tuscan hillside charmer will please both the palate and the pocketbook.

\$25.00 PER BOTTLE **\$270.00** PER CASE

2009 BAROLO “LAZZAIRASCO” • GUIDO PORRO

Guido Porro may never be a household name in Piedmont or anywhere else, and that's just fine by me. The modesty with which he continues to craft his utterly traditional, ego-less wines—which all show charm, typicity, and pleasure—and sell them at such reasonable prices makes him a sensational partner. Guido is out to please! His Barolo is raised exclusively in large Slavonian oak *botti*, as classic a Barolo as you will find. Vintage 2009 brought a little extra color and concentration to the game. Not bad! The aromas of tar and roses, the firm tannins, the overall class and balance—these latter qualities are in every wine wearing Porro's name.

\$42.00 PER BOTTLE **\$453.60** PER CASE



LOIRE

by Anthony Lynch

2012 VOUVRAY SEC “LA DILETTANTE”

CATHERINE & PIERRE BRETON

Great Vouvray provides a seductive texture and luscious aromas, all while staying on the dry side. This is no exception. There is something especially warm and comforting about Catherine Breton’s Vouvray, be it the lovely softness on the palate or the exotic flavors that bring to mind some sort of pink, peachy fruit. A glass of La Dilettante soothes and satisfies, like a mother’s embrace or a hug in the arms of an old friend.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE

\$237.60 PER CASE

2011 CHINON “LES GRANGES”

BERNARD BAUDRY

Les Granges comes from younger vines in sand and limestone soils. This is a drink-me-now, fruit-filled fantasy from the Loire Valley. Low in tannin, high in affordability, and off-the-charts in delectability, it is living, purple proof that Cabernet Franc should not be ignored as a source of sheer joy.

\$19.95 PER BOTTLE

\$215.46 PER CASE

2010 CHINON “CLOS DE LA DIOTERIE”

CHARLES JOGUET



Joguet’s limestone cellar

© Julia Issleib

This is serious Chinon—from the domaine’s oldest vines, planted in the 1930s. It combines rustic edginess with velvety elegance in a way that gratifies while beckoning the question of what would happen after five, ten, or fifteen years of cellar time. La Dioterie is a well-structured wine whose earthy flavors are the perfect match for all sorts of game. Roasted quail worked well for me.

\$52.00 PER BOTTLE

\$561.60 PER CASE

ALSACE

by Anthony Lynch

2012 SYLVANER “VIEILLES VIGNES” DOMAINE OSTERTAG

It would seem silly to say that André Ostertag is a master of Sylvaner, given the wines he produces from Alsace’s “noble” grape varieties. But if you want to try one of the best Sylvaners around—lively and focused with crystalline purity; orchard fruit brought to your palate with impalpable precision; a geology lesson’s worth of minerality—then André’s your guy. It may come as a shock that Sylvaner can reach such great heights.

\$24.00 PER BOTTLE **\$259.20** PER CASE

2012 EDELZWICKER • MEYER-FONNÉ

We’re all familiar with the old saying, “There ain’t no party like an Alsace party!” Aren’t we?? Either way, consider your party needs taken care of thanks to this ONE-LITER bottle of Alsatian deliciousness. Pull the cork on Félix Meyer’s enchanting Edelzwicker, and let each sniff take you deeper into the fairy tale that is Alsace: flowery meadows, lush orchards, singing birds, charming villages . . . You’ll find the tantalizing hint of sweetness irresistible, while the bright, refreshing finish is sure to keep you coming back for another sip.

\$18.00 PER LITER BOTTLE **\$194.40** PER CASE

2011 PINOT BLANC • KUENTZ-BAS

The aroma is reminiscent of a very ripe apple, and on the palate it delivers the same crisp crunch you would get from taking a big, juicy bite. There is a perfect balance of rich fruit flavors with refreshing acidity. It finishes on a lingering note of succulence and creaminess, accented by a hint of honey. Overall, this is a terrific bottle of dry white wine that will reliably satisfy throughout the winter. And at this price, it’s not to miss out on!

\$16.95 PER BOTTLE **\$183.06** PER CASE

KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT—TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All wines purchased from Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant are deemed sold in California and title passes to the buyer in California. We make no representation relative to the customer’s right to import wine into his/her state. In placing an order, the customer represents to Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant that he/she is at least 21 years of age and the person to whom delivery will be made is at least 21 years old.

BEAUJOLAIS

by Chris Santini

2012 BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGES “CUVÉE MARYLOU” • GUY BRETON

Guy Breton's Beaujolais Villages clocks in at 11.5% alcohol and that's just the way he likes it. Breton makes wines he wants to drink, nothing more and nothing less. Good thing for us, he likes to drink wines that are low in alcohol, vinified without a drop of sulfur, lighter bodied yet wonderfully perfumed, and a joy to share with company at any time of the day. These qualities, to me, are all that is best in the Beaujolais.

\$23.00 PER BOTTLE \$248.40 PER CASE

2012 MOULIN-À-VENT “VIEILLES VIGNES” DOMAINE DIOCHON

Until 1919, Moulin-à-Vent was as famous for its manganese as it was for its wine. Four large mines worked night and day extracting this black element from the granite bedrock. An element of many uses, and most importantly to Frenchmen in that era, as the production of helmets for soldiers in the trenches of the Great War depended on it. The mines have all since shut down, but the manganese is still there, slowly and quietly being extracted by the vines, whose deep roots tap into the deposits. The black manganese is visible in the stones people here used to build homes, and I can't help but think that it's visible here in the wine, too. Nowhere else in the Beaujolais will you see such a dark color and broad structure. Well deserving of its local moniker, “Lord of the Crus.”

\$23.00 PER BOTTLE \$248.40 PER CASE

2012 BROUILLY • CHÂTEAU THIVIN

Kermit first visited Château Thivin in 1976 with Richard Olney. Since then the domaine has branched out a bit, down off the Mont Brouilly, to the neighboring *cru* of Brouilly. Consider Thivin's Brouilly like a softer, more feminine counterpoint to the hardier Côte de Brouilly. What they share, and what has always set Thivin apart in the Beaujolais, is the unmistakable class and elegance from start to finish.

\$23.00 PER BOTTLE \$248.40 PER CASE

WINTER WHITE

by Anthony Lynch

2011 CASSIS BLANC • CLOS STE. MAGDELEINE



François Sack's son, Jonathan, has begun to take an active role at Clos Ste. Magdeleine, and his ambition is a sign of great things to come at the domaine. The 2011 is a preview: another great vintage of Marsanne, Ugni Blanc, Clairette, and Bourbelenc from one of the most spectacular properties in the wine world, perched right over the sparkly turquoise Mediterranean. Not much wine from Cassis makes it out of

the region, where most of it is gulped down with grilled fish, steamed mussels, fish soup . . . Hopefully our small allocation will meet the same fate at your dinner table.

\$32.00 PER BOTTLE

\$345.60 PER CASE



Kermit Lynch, François Sack, Jonathan Sack, Anthony Lynch

© Gail Skoff

BORDEAUX

by Dixon Brooke

2012 IGP ATLANTIQUE “DÉCLINAISON” DOMAINE DE L’ALLIANCE

Strap on your seatbelts, folks. The newly arrived duo of wines from Daniel Alibrand of Domaine de L’Alliance in Sauternes is going to turn some heads and challenge anyone who thinks they’ve tasted it all! Faced with a disastrous end to the growing season in 2012 and having gambled on leaving almost all his fruit on the vine to produce Sauternes, Daniel had to figure out a creative way to make wine out of partially botrytised grapes basically overnight, because Mother Nature turned her back on him and he had to pick them as they were. They didn’t have the profile of a dry wine or a sweet wine. So he made two different wines to challenge our perceptions of dry and sweet. The aromas here are like nothing you’ve ever experienced. The exotic mango, papaya, coconut, and pineapple introduce a sweet wine—or so you think. However, it turns out to be bone-dry. You will have a lot of fun pairing this pure Semillon with a myriad of foods: Southeast Asian cuisine, egg dishes, shrimp, and scallops—just a few ideas to get your mind in gear.



\$42.00 PER BOTTLE

\$453.60 PER CASE

2012 IGP ATLANTIQUE “SAUVÉ DES EAUX” DOMAINE DE L’ALLIANCE

These are the grapes that made it far enough to make a “sweet wine,” but not close to the level of concentration one would need for a Sauternes. The grapes were “saved from the water,” as another deluge right after they were picked would have made them practically unusable. Don’t get the wrong idea—Daniel, perfectionist that he is, still eliminated a ton of grapes and even a few barrels before arriving at a wine that he was comfortable releasing under his own label. This wine has a profile closer to a Vouvray Moelleux. You’ll find the aromas very Sauternes-like but without the same concentration or level of residual sugar. The result is a wine with the character of Sauternes that is much more versatile at table. These could both be firsts and lasts, so don’t miss the opportunity to taste them!

\$42.00 PER BOTTLE

\$453.60 PER CASE

2011 SAINT-ÉMILION GRAND CRU TERTRE DE LA MOULEYRE

Eric Jeanneteau's vines sit on a prime saddle of hillside land north of Saint-Émilion (one of the best parts). The subsoil is of course pure white limestone, which gives wines bearing the Saint-Émilion name their unique character. Eric's production is minuscule, only a few barrels. He uses a very small old basket press to crush his harvest. The wine, despite its youth, shows real poise: power and finesse. Eric's goal is to make a wine that is approachable young, yet capable of aging. Judge for yourself and enjoy every drop of it. We are proud to offer a wine from this area of the world produced by a domaine tiny even by Burgundian standards. See for yourself, it's not just another red Bordeaux.

\$65.00 PER BOTTLE

\$702.00 PER CASE



© Gail Skoff

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