

IL-QATRA

May 2023 Session Report

Session Theme: Light body Reds

Date: 23.05.2023

Location: Xara Lodge


Menu:

- Seabream Carpaccio with Yuzu Gel, Petite Salad, Marjoram Oil, Dried Tomato
- Artichoke Ravioli, Asparagus, Parmesan Espuma, Local Olive Oil
- Pan Seared Fillet of Beef, Wild Mushroom Rarebit, Chateau Potatoes, Jerusalem Artichoke Puree, Beef Jus
- Dark Chocolate Devil's Food Cake, Raspberry Compote, Vanilla Ice Cream

Food Scoring: 8.75/ 10 **attendance** 43

		Wine	Region	Vintage	Varietal	Voting Out of 20	Retail Price	Importer	Consumption
Aptf	White	Dreissigacker Riesling VINTAGES	Rheinhessen	NV	Riesling	16.09	€19.50	Holy Wines	9
A	Red	La Rochelle	Beaujolais	2020	Gamay	14.91	€33	Philippe Martinet	8
B	Red	Vosne Romanee	Burgundy	2017	Pinot Noir	15.93	€90	Philippe Martinet	8
C	Red	Roter Berg Kenzingen Spätburgunder	Baden	2015	Pinot Noir	16.72	€68	Holy Wines	9
D	Red	Cote du Py Morgon	Beaujolais	2018	Gamay	15.96	€36	Philippe Martinet	9
Average						15.92		Average per member	1 bottle per head

Wine: Dreissigacker Riesling VINTAGES	Region: Rheinhessen
Vintage: NV	Varietal: 100% Riesling
Alcohol Content: 12.5%	Price: €19.50
Tasting Notes <p>Light in colour. It is fruit driven with aromas of tropical fruits and a hint of lemon zest and green nectarines. On the palate it is elegant, well-balanced with flavours of yellow and green fruit, minerality and a long polished finish.</p>	
Description <p>Jochen Dreissigacker has caused a considerable stir both in his native Germany and abroad, winning high praise and points wherever his wines are sold. His 45 hectares of vineyards are based in the Rheinhessen, which is currently undergoing what might be termed a 'Rheinhessen revival', with Jochen at its forefront. From the 2010 vintage, Jochen's wines all have organic certification and he also uses biodynamic methods for much of his estate (although he has chosen not to be certified). Wines from Dreissigacker stand for the highest quality, a long aging period under perfect conditions and, above all, for pure aromas.</p> <p>Vintages – a mix of five vintages, one Riesling. No other grape variety reflects the characteristics and aromas of a vintage so uncompromisingly. A perfectly balanced and well-rounded Riesling that reflects the independence of each individual vintage.</p>	



IL-QATRA

Wine: Dom. des Terres Dorees "La Rochelle" Moulin a Vent	Region: Beaujolais
Vintage: 2020	Varietal: 100% Gamay
Alcohol Content: 12.5%	Price: €33

Tasting Notes

Brun's Moulin-à-Vent La Rochelle unwinds in the glass with scents of red berry compote, licorice, sweet soil tones and spices. Medium to full-bodied, layered and compact, with fine depth and plenty of sweet, powdery tannin.

Description

Domaine des Terres Dorées is a Beaujolais producer, located in Charnay, a village to the north of Lyon, France. It is the estate of noted Beaujolais vigneron Jean-Paul Brun.

Domaine des Terres Dorées' wine portfolio includes the appellations of Morgon, Fleurie, Côte de Brouilly, Moulin-à-Vent, and Beaujolais AOC. Jean-Paul Brun produces atypical Beaujolais with Burgundian winemaking practices.

Unlike traditional whole-cluster, semi-carbonic Beaujolais, grapes are handpicked, sorted, and de-stemmed before a long maceration in the winery. Wild yeasts from the vineyard are used for the fermentation process rather than synthetic yeasts like a majority of other producers in the area.

The Terres Dorées estate was originally a family farm with Jean-Paul's father planting 4 hectares (9.8 acres) to vines. Grapes were sold to a local cooperative until 1977 when Jean-Paul expressed an interest in winemaking. The following year Domaine des Terres Dorées was established, and is dedicated almost completely to the production of Gamay.

Today, there is approximately 44ha (108.7 acres) of vineyards planted to Gamay and Chardonnay with small portions of Pinot Noir and Roussane. The granite and clay based soils here are covered with stones giving the area the name "Terres Dorées" or *Region of Golden Stones*.

Moulin-à-Vent is arguably the most noteworthy of the ten Beaujolais crus, located in the very north of the Beaujolais region. Moulin-à-Vent wines, made from the Gamay grape variety, are known for being some of the most concentrated and tannic made in Beaujolais, a far cry from the light, simple Beaujolais Nouveau wines. Floral and fruit-driven in youth, these wines often develop spicy, earthy characteristics as they age.



Wine: Benjamin Leroux Vosne Romanee	Region: Burgundy
Vintage: 2017	Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir
Alcohol Content: 13%	Price: €90

Tasting Notes

Mid to deep crimson. Spicy and almost a touch exotic on the nose. And a sweetness of spice and dark red fruit. Chewy and creamy on the palate. Generous in fruit and light in structure but all making a whole. Pure and gentle but persistent.

Description

Benjamin Leroux is a small negociant business established in Beaune in 2007 by the former manager of the famous Pommard estate Domaine du Comte Armand. A prodigy who began his academic winemaking studies at 13 years old, Leroux is regarded as one of the most exciting producers in Burgundy, with a style combining fruit purity with subtle oak. Leroux shares a modern winery in the heart of Beaune with Dominique Lafon and two other winegrowers. Unlike other negociants he never buys juice or wine, instead managing his own vineyards and working closely

IL-QATRA

with growers. Leroux's aim is to develop an estate with his own vineyards, focusing on Puligny-Montrachet and Volnay.

Currently, Leroux produces a range of wines that cover the entry-level Bourgogne appellation all the way up to premier and grand cru, including cuvées from the Clos de Vougeot, Clos Saint-Denis and Bâtard-Montrachet vineyards.

The small commune in Burgundy's Côte de Nuits district is well-known its elegantly balanced Pinot Noir. Originally named just Vosne, the village took the suffix Romanée in 1866 in honor of its most prized vineyard, La Romanée (most communes along the Côte d'Or did this between the mid 19th and early 20th Centuries). The commune's area is grouped together with that of neighboring Flagey-Echézeaux and while the villages are entirely separate, their finest vineyards are clustered together immediately north of Vosne-Romanée and take that latter title.

The classic Vosne-Romanée wine is considered by many to have the perfect balance of weight, structure, elegance and longevity. Tasting notes often refer to a combination of tart red fruits (particularly cherries and raspberries) and darker elements of undergrowth, licorice and smoke.

The village has been a known source of quality wines for more than a thousand years, since the arrival of the monks of the Saint-Vivant monastery. Today, it makes wine almost exclusively from Pinot Noir, although up to 15 percent of the local white varieties are permitted, to allow for natural planting variations and mutations (Pinot Noir is notoriously genetically unstable).

The wines are made under the Vosne-Romanée communal appellation (with about one-third coming from premier cru sites) and six grand cru appellations, each pertaining to a specific vineyard.

The entire surface area of Vosne-Romanée grand cru vineyards (not including those within Flagey-Echézeaux) is only 27 hectares (67 acres – about half the size of the single Clos de Vougeot climat just across the commune boundary). It should be borne in mind, however, that the commune of Flagey-Echézeaux (with the Echézeaux and Grands-Echézeaux sites) has more grand cru surface area than either premier cru or "villages" combined.



Wine: Roter Berg Kenzingen Spätburgunder	Region: Baden, Germany	
Vintage: 2015	Varietal: 100% pinot Noir	
Alcohol Content: 14%	Price: €68	

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Tasting Notes

Raspberry, blackberry and eucalyptus on the nose, an attractive bouquet. On the palate the bite is typical of the vintage, but behind it hides flattering fruit. It is designed for persistence with obvious ageing potential, but it is already noticeably good now.

Description

Baden is situated in the federal state of Baden-Württemberg, bordering France to the west and Switzerland to the south and is known for its vibrant wine culture. The region benefits from a relatively mild climate, thanks to its proximity to the Rhine River and the shelter provided by the Black Forest to the east. The diverse terroir of the region, including various soil types and microclimates, allows for the cultivation of a wide range of grape varieties.

Fritz Waßmer had simply acknowledged that the best grapes would not necessarily spend the longest time in new casks and in connection with the 2011 harvest he decided to “steal” some of the fruit from some of the oldest vines at Staufener Schlossberg and Roter Berg at Kenzingen to produce an extra full Spätburgunder. A careful sorting both during and after the harvest. The grapes are naturally harvested by hand and driven down to the winery in small plastic boxes where all stalks are removed before the grapes are crushed and spontaneously fermented in just 2 new French casks. Subsequently, 14 months of aging follow in barrels before the wine is bottled without further clarification or filtration.



Wine: Cote du Py Morgon	Region: Beaujolais	
Vintage: 2018	Varietal: Gamay	
Alcohol Content: 14.5%	Price: €36	

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Tasting Notes

The 2018 Morgon Côte du Py is showing very nicely, offering up a classy bouquet of raspberries and plums, mingled with hints of orange rind, violet and cardamom. Medium to full-bodied, deep and complete, with a fleshy but elegantly understated core and an expansive finish. Impressively integrated with powdery tannins and succulent balancing acids, it's another fine rendition of this iconic cuvée.

Description

Jean Foillard is a family estate in the Beaujolais region of France. Popular among fans of natural wines, Foillard wines are also regularly praised by critics in their own right. The domaine is best known for a range of red wines from the Morgon appellation.

Most of Foillards' vineyards are planted on the Côte du Py, the famed slope outside the town of Villié-Morgon and the pride of Morgon. This estate comprises nearly fourteen hectares. Foillard's Morgons are deep, structured, and complex, with a velvety lushness that makes them irresistible when young despite their aging potential. Jean raises his wines in older barrels sourced from top estates in Burgundy, a logical decision for someone crafting Gamay in a Burgundian style. It is the passion and dedication of vigneronns like this that have brought pride back to the crus of the Beaujolais.

