

# WINE • BY • THE • BOTTLE

## French Sparkling

- NV Étienne Calsac 'L'échappée Belle,' Blanc de Blancs, Avize** 75  
Étienne took over his grandparents parcel of vineyards when he was just 26, which encompasses several terroirs. This provides him the ability to craft wines with precise acidity, texture, and length. He utilizes a "perpetual" base wine reserve was started in 2011.
- NV Étienne Doué 'Cuveé Sélection', Brut Champagne, Aube, Champagne, France** 75  
This is a great example of a grower Champagne and a fine expression of sensory experience for your palate. Lush and fruity with a keen chalky mineral edge. Give in to indulgence!
- NV Jacques Lassaigne, Blanc des Blancs, Extra Brut, Montgueux, Champagne** 110  
Montgueux is known by many as "Le Montrachet" of Champagne. This stunning Chardonnay over-delivers, will make you feel like an oligarch, without paying oligarch prices!
- NV Jean-Marc Seleque 'Solesence,' Brut, Champagne** 105  
Champagne that's not afraid to cover up its beautiful aromas and acidity with wood, bready notes. Grapes carefully sourced from 7 villages.
- NV Bourgeois-Diaz, Trois Cépages, Vallée de la Marne, Champagne** 90  
Jerome recently converted over his 7 hectares to biodynamic farming; the result is tense, and pristine with a hint of playfulness.
- 2015 Ruppert-Leroy 'Les Cogneaux,' Brut Nature, Blanc de Noirs, Aube, Champagne** 140  
Bénédicte Leroy quit her job as a PE teacher, asked Pierre Overnoy to teach her about natural winemaking, and apprenticed at Vouette et Sorbée! Bénédicte is creating quite a stir in Champagne. No dosage is added, nor needed, when your fruit is pure and giving, as Leroy's.
- NV Vouette et Sorbée 'Fidèle,' Brut Nature, Aube, Champagne** 145  
A relative newcomer, Bertrand Gautherot has an infectious enthusiasm for his wines farming biodynamically and fermenting with natural yeast. Made from 100% Pinot Noir, the kimmeridgian soils add a chalky undertone to the savory cherry notes. Highly, highly recommended.
- NV Lanson "Rosé Label," Brut, Reims, France (375 ml)(Rosé)** 60  
Since 1760, Lanson has continued to be family owned, making wines in their traditional way without compromising quality. Their rosé is a blend of reserve wines from 10 different harvests and aged in the cellar for three years before release.

## Sparkling — Other Countries

- 2017 Bortolomoi 'Prior,' Prosecco, Valdobbiadene Superiore, Veneto, Italy** 55  
Perennially a Tre Bicchieri award winner and for good reason. The wines express a purity and precision not easily found in Prosecco.
- NV Mata i Coloma 'Cava Cupada,' Monastrell, Penedés, Spain (Rosé)** 45  
Pere Mata crafts his Cava's like "grower" Champagne producers. He only uses free run juice, native grapes, and aged 24 months.
- NV Cruse Wine Co. 'Tradition,' Chardonnay/Pinot Noir, California** 100  
Since "Ultramarine" has ascended to astronomical heights in popularity, price, and scarcity, Michael began producing his own version.
- 2000 Recaredo 'Turo d'en Mota' Cava Brut Nature, Penedes, Spain** 250  
After nearly a decade on lees, this single vineyard Xarello is the finest Cava currently available & could easily rival great Champagnes.
- 2010 Bisson 'Abissi' Spumante, Portofino, Liguria, Italy** 220  
One of the world's sparkling wine treasures, this is matured on its lees 200 feet under the sea, emerging from the water with barnacles and seaweed intact on the bottle; a gentle wine of total saline-edged finesse.

## Sparkling — Pétillant Naturel • Méthod Ancestrale

- 2016 Red Tail Ridge, Riesling, Finger Lakes, New York** 55  
Keenly focused notes of pear that expand into a lush palate coating mousse. A very approachable pet-nat perfect to pair with Bugles.
- 2018 Scar of the Sea, Chardonnay, San Juan South Vineyard, Paso Robles, California** 65  
Mike Guigni harvests this Chardonnay at 17.5 brix, with fermentation finishing after bottling. A fruit bowl of tropical and Asian fruits.
- 2018 Cruse Wine Co., Valdigué, Demming Vineyard, Napa Valley, California** 75  
There's Valdigué in Napa? Apparently a lot. The guy behind cult sparkling "Ultramarine" also is a genius producing stunning Pet-Nat!
- 2017 Jean-Pierre Robinot 'L'Opera de Vin L'As Annees des Folles,' Pineau d'Aunis/Chenin, Loire Valley, France** 70  
Robinot is one of the first wine professionals to open a "natural" wine bar, in Paris, in the early eighties. His desire to introduce and promote the people changing this paradigm led him to go back to his home in the Loire Valley and produce his own wines. His eccentric, and enigmatic personality is reflected in every single one of his bottlings. A sparkling wine of pure joy!
- 2018 La Grange Tiphaine 'Rosa, Rosé, Rosam,' Gamay/Côt/Grolleau/Cab Franc, Loire Valley, France (Rosé)** 50  
Coralie, and husband, Damien, are a super sweet couple crafting serious wines with a playful side. Summer encapsulated in a bottle!
- NV Philippe Bornard 'Tant-Mieux,' Ploussard, Pupillin, Arbois, France (Rosé)** 75  
A legend in Jura, it is with great excitement to have received an allocation of this wine that has achieved "unicorn" status. The wine is fermented in steel tanks, with five days of skin maceration, before being bottled and rested on riddling racks. The wine has a very low alcohol percentage (8.5%) and a gentle fizz on the palate. Fermented dry, but the fruit is so pure natural sweetness is present.

## French Whites – Loire Valley

<b>2009 Domaine de la Louvetrie (Jo Landron) 'Le Fief du Breil,' Melon, Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine</b>	<b>75</b>
The indelible, Jo Landron, is a master of Melon. I've been fortunate to taste several back vintages of "Fief." The 2009 is as fresh and expressive as others in their current vintage! The secret is out, popularity is at an all time high, the back vintages are becoming scarce.	
<b>2017 Francois Cotat 'Caillottes,' Sauvignon Blanc, Sancerre</b>	<b>90</b>
Caillottes refers to the pebbly soils the vines thrive on creating a lithe and linear textual experience that is intoxicatingly fresh.	
<b>2014 Sébastien Riffault 'Les Quarterons,' Sauvignon Blanc, Sancerre</b>	<b>75</b>
Surly and irreverent, Sébastien is one of my favorite winemakers. Not only for those qualities, but to his commitment to bio-diverse farming, hand harvesting when he's sees fit, and working the vineyard by horse and plow. Quarterons introduces you to the mind of the man himself.	
<b>2015 Thierry Merlin 'Le Chêne Marchand,' Sauvignon Blanc, Sancerre</b>	<b>75</b>
On the chalky hillsides of Bué, sits Chêne Marchand, the unofficial grand cru vineyard of the area. Rich, yet mineral driven and elegant.	
<b>2017 Domaine le Briseau 'Patapon,' Chenin Blanc, Coteaux-du-Loir</b>	<b>60</b>
Nathalie Gaubicher Heredia's expression of biodynamically grown Chenin. Symphonic stone fruit's with mind-bending minerality.	
<b>2018 Domaine du Closel 'La Jalousie,' Chenin Blanc, Savennières</b>	<b>75</b>
Located on the most western hill of Savennières on quartz and sandstone. Seriously beautiful Chenin from 20 year old vines.	
<b>2016 Grange Tiphaine 'Clef de Sol,' Chenin Blanc, Touraine</b>	<b>65</b>
A versatile Chenin that exudes honeysuckle, linden, with subtle hints of orchard fruit. The slightest sweetness adds body and weight.	
<b>2017 Frantz Saumon 'Mineral +,' Chenin Blanc, Montlouis</b>	<b>60</b>
A blend of different terroirs to represent the vintage as a whole. Exceptionally precise, vibrant, and fresh.	
<b>2017 Hodgson (Mai et Kenji) 'Les Aussigouins,' Chenin Blanc, Anjou</b>	<b>95</b>
The wine I've been waiting for to arrive in Chicago! Ex-pat, Canadian's, Mai and Kenji are crafting "oh-so beautifully flawed" Chenin? Maybe to an MS. For me, it does not get any better than this. Special pricing for you to experience for yourself. Or, I'll buy it all!	
<b>2017 L'Ange Vin (Jean-Pierre Robinot) 'Cuvée Bistologie,' Chenin Blanc, Chahaignes</b>	<b>90</b>
The High Priest of minimal intervention winemaking, in the Loire. Robinot's Chenin is just as enigmatic as he is! Minute quantities available.	
<b>2018 Laurent Saillard 'Lucky You,' Sauvignon Blanc/Chardonnay, Touraine</b>	<b>55</b>
Clos Roche Blanche fruit planted in 1973! Laurent is a former chef turned vigneron studying under Noella Morantin and Didier Barouillet.	
<b>2015 Domaine de Montcy, Romorantin, Cour-Cheverny</b>	<b>50</b>
I have immense admiration for Laura Semeria. Her wines are thoughtful, ethereal, and graceful. Her "Romo" is juicy, key lime, and white tea.	

## French Whites – Burgundy

<b>2015 Duplessis, Chardonnay, Montmains, Chablis</b>	<b>90</b>
Arguably one of the finest vignerons in Chablis, and one of the small number of producers farming organically. Montmains shows power and ageing potential. Any opportunity I have to fill my glass with Duplessis is a sheer gift.	
<b>2014 Emmanuel Rouget, Hautes-Côtes de Beaune</b>	<b>80</b>
Emmanuel, who learned from his famous uncle, Henri Jayer, continues the tradition of super low yields and meticulously chosen fruit resulting in wines of substance & finesse. Incredibly keen and with integrated oak; opulent, like being fed grapes on a bed of pillows.	
<b>2010 Clos Moulin aux Moines, Monopole, Auxey-Duresses</b>	<b>100</b>
From a great year, this killer Auxey is not to be missed: extraordinary finesse and mouthwatering acidity.	
<b>2015 Dom. de la Vougeraie, Savigny-lès-Beaune</b>	<b>110</b>
Sometimes families can work together. The Boisset's own several parcels in Burgundy. This Savigny-lès-Beaune over delivers in style.	
<b>2015 Gille, Côte de Nuits-Villages</b>	<b>85</b>
Stunningly fresh and weaves a soft patchwork on the palate. You can have the best of Burgundy at this price point.	
<b>2017 Dufaitre, Beaujolais-Blanc</b>	<b>70</b>
Bolo Chardonnay that tastes like fancy Burgundy, if fancy Burg was unfiltered, from power couple Laurence and Remi Dufaitre.	

## A Selection of Wines from Alice et Olivier de Moor

<b>2014 Chardonnay 'Coteau de Rosette,' Chablis</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>2015 Chardonnay 'Coteau de Rosette,' Chablis</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>2017 Chardonnay 'Coteau de Rosette,' Chablis</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>2017 Chardonnay 'L'Humeur du Temps,' Chablis</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2015 Chardonnay, Bourgogne Chitry</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>2017 Chardonnay, Bourgogne Chitry</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>2015 Aligoté, 'd'autres vallées'</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2017 Aligoté, Chablis</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>2017 Sauvignon Blanc 'Sans Bruit,' Saint Bris</b>	<b>75</b>

## "Le Vendangeur Masqué"

*Over the course of the past four vintages, the de Moor's suffered severe crop losses due to frost and hail. They called upon the assistance of several vigneron friends, all of whom farm organically and biodynamically, and purchased fruit from them. The wines are made by Olivier, and certainly possess the style he achieves with his estate bottlings. The name "Le Vendangeur Masqué" stems from a French law that requires producers to buy the fruit through a different company-hence a different name.*

<b>2015 Chablis</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>2016 Bourboulenc, Southern Rhône</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>2016 Viognier/Chardonnay/Clairette/Roussanne 'En si Belle Compagnie Meridionale,' Southern Rhône</b>	<b>65</b>

## French Whites – Jura

- 2017 Domaine des Carlines 'Le Vouivre,' Chardonnay/Savagnin, Côtes du Jura** 65  
Patrick Ligeron is carving out quite a niche with traditional and Jura geeks. Le Vouivre is an example of the grey marl soil and not the nutty/oxidative style associated with Jura. The blend is 70% Chardonnay and 30% Savagnin from all four of his named parcels.
- 2013 Michel Gahier 'Les Crêts,' Chardonnay, Arbois** 65  
The Gahier family has been in the Jura since 1525 and Michel learned from his friend & neighbor, the very talented Jacques Puffeney. This shows less of the oxidative notes associated with the sous voile method of winemaking; driven, elegant and high-toned.
- 2011 Overney-Crinquand, Chardonnay, Arbois-Pupillin** 65  
Mikael Crinquand, a distant relative to Pierre Overney, is the vigneron of this delightful offering of lemongrass, walnut, and brown butter.
- 2016 Dolomies 'Les Boutonniers,' Chardonnay, Côtes du Jura** 70  
Texturally fascinating to the point you may not want to swallow your sip. Rocky, marl filled, with deep limestone soils command a presence.
- 2015 Labet 'En Chalasse,' Savagnin, Côtes du Jura** 60  
Green and yellow Savagnins from original "massale" roots. The result, texture and intensity if Burgundy and Rhône whites joined forces.
- 2016 Labet 'Vin de Voile,' Chardonnay/Savagnin, Côtes du Jura** 70  
Fermented under veil, or flor, for 24-48 months creating nutty, brown butter notes with exceptional length and acidity. Pure delight!
- 2016 Labet 'En Chalasse,' Chardonnay, Côtes du Jura** 85  
En Chalasse sits on Bajocian limestone, from the Jurassic period. A subtle intensity hallmarks this gold class offering from Julien Labet.
- 2012 Marnes Blanche 'Empreinte,' Savagnin, Côtes du Jura** 70  
'Empreinte' are the terrior driven, sous-voile (a flor cap develops during the fermentation process) wines from Pauline and Geraud Fromont. Nutty with high toned acidity. Think brown butter and lemon.
- 2016 Les Bottes Rouge 'dare-dare,' Savagnin, Vin de France** 95  
Jean-Baptiste Menigoz, a former school teacher, crafts incredibly poignant wines that are so dang easy to love. Ouillé style.
- 2016 Philippe Bornard 'Les Gaudrettes,' Chardonnay, Côtes du Jura** 105  
Various varieties of marl that make up the vineyard creates a distinct minerality commonly found in wines from this area. Gaudrettes is Bornard's Chardonnay masterpiece. Deftly intertwining citrus and stonefruit, marzipan, spice, and hazelnut. Exclusive!

## French Whites – Other Regions

- 2016 Emile Beyer 'Eguisheim,' Riesling, Alsace** 60  
Christian Beyer crafts Riesling with such pin-point accuracy, it's easy to see why his wines are favorites of Michelin starred chefs.
- 2017 Leon Barral, Terret Blanc & Gris/Viognier/Roussane, l'Hérault, Languedoc, France** 85  
Didier Barral is the 13<sup>th</sup> generation vigneron, and champion of the biodynamic movement. Grapes are co-fermented and macerated for 3-4 hours. Scarcely available, but what a treat! Blossoming peach and orange flower.
- 2018 Romaneaux-Destezet (Hervé Souhart), Roussane/Viognier, Northern Rhône** 75  
From Hervé's vineyards directly across the Rhône River from the storied hillsides of Hermitage. Tropical fruits, pear, stone, and a hint of oak
- 2016 Plageoles, Mauzac Vert, Gaillac** 55  
Oh how I love Mauzac! Probably because it possess all that I love in Chenin Blanc. Apples, linden, gentle acidity with a vibrant finish.
- 2017 Dominique Belluard 'Les Alpes,' Gringet, Savoie** 70  
Dominique is the master of Gringet & this wine gives me chills; incredibly keen texture, delicate wildflowers, pineapple & crushed rocks

## Italian Whites

- 2015 Poggio Alloro, Vernaccia di San Gimignano, Tuscany** 45  
Poggio Alloro is a working farm that provides the family, and its many annual visitors, with all the culinary riches one dreams of when they dream of Tuscany. Organic? Of course! Displaying a floral bouquet and maturity that any Pinot Grigio lover would happily accept.
- 2015 Vignetti Massa, Derthona (Timarossa), Monleale, Piedmont** 70  
One man, Walter Massa, took it upon himself to resurrect this grape in its native area. Any Burgundy lover will find a new favorite.

## Spanish Whites

- 2012 Can Ràfols dels Caus 'El Rocallís,' Incrocio Manzoni, Penedés** 95  
After a visit to the winery, legendary Elisabetta Foradori fell in love with this grape, and this wine, she planted in her vineyards, in northern Italy. There is a reason this wine receives such high praise. For the discerning Burgundy hound to explore.
- 2015 Nacho Gonzalez 'La Perdida,' Godello, Castilla y Leon** 80  
Nacho is a bit of an iconoclast and his pure bottlings of old vines show intense purity and grip; this could rival fine Savennieres.
- 2013 Finca Aviño 'Stol n', Xarel-Lo, Penedés** 75  
Raïm de Ton Rimbau wanted the grapes he grew, and resorted to any means necessary to retrieve said grapes. Read between the lines.
- 2017 Clos Figueras 'Font de la Figuera,' Viognier, Priorat** 85  
Viognier from Priorat? A unique story of its planting has lead to one of the most texturally stimulating white wines I have had in years.
- 2004 Lopez de Heredia 'Viña Tondonia,' Viura/Malvasia, Rioja** 90  
The wines of Lopez de Heredia are so universally known, there's probably higher education courses dedicated to them. Expect oxidized, nutty, brown butter notes here. 2004 IS the current release. These wines age glacially which is why they become so highly sought after.

## Austrian & German Whites

- 2017 Sattlerhof, Sauvignon Blanc, Gamlitzer STK, Steiermark, Austria** 45  
The southern and eastern area of Austria does not produce Riesling or Grüner Veltliner. Sauvignon Blanc reigns supreme. Fabulously!
- 2018 Ingrid Groiss, Grüner Veltliner, Weinviertel DAC, Niederösterreich** 45  
Ingrid came into winemaking with passion, conviction, and determination. Her Grüner's are edgy, fresh, and precise. Always a favorite!
- 2015 Nikolaihof 'Zwickl,' Grüner Veltliner, Wachau, Austria** 55  
This unfiltered Grüner is shows a doughy richness with notes of birch wood but then it tightens up with classic notes of flint and pear.
- 2018 Seehof, Riesling, Feinherb, Rheinhessen, Germany** 40  
Younger of the estates vines producing nervy, electric wines. Summer apple, melon, and smiles.
- 2017 Immich-Batterieberg 'Detonation,' Riesling, Mosel, Germany** 45  
"Detonation" refers to the choice to their steep cliff with explosives in order to create a more cultivatable hillside slope. For me, it refers to the way this "trocken" i.e. "dry" Riesling presents an explosion of white peach and white melons. Warning: don't glee on your date.
- 2017 Clemens Busch 'Low Sulfur', Riesling Trocken, Mosel, Germany** 50  
Clemens is the fifth generation winemaker at this estate and this bottling, which always seems to show the intense character of the Marienburg vineyards, is bottled with dramatically lower amounts of sulfur; intense, flinty and austere; don't miss.

## Whites from Other Countries

- 2016 Milan Nestarec 'Fork and Knives,' Müller-Thurgau, Moravia, Czech Republic** 65  
Milan is promoting minimal intervention winemaking in the Czech Republic and producing some of the most interesting wines in Europe.
- 2008 Conrad Caloz 'Les Bernunes' Heida-Paien, Valais, Switzerland** 60  
Heida-Paien (aka Savagnin) shows beautifully here, lean and refreshing, with juniper, watermelon & mint.
- 2010 Pyramid Valley 'Lion's Tooth' Chardonnay, Canterbury, New Zealand** 75  
This gorgeous Chardonnay has all the complexity of the finest Grand Cru Burgundy; intensely pure with a memorable impression.

## American Whites

- 2017 Ruth Lewandowski 'Dinos to Diamonds,' Picpoul, Rorick Vineyard, CA (Produced in Utah)** 60  
Evan's "one-off" experimental wine is a beauty! Slightly carbonic, fruit forward with complex nuances much like diamonds . . . and dinosaurs.
- 2016 Scar of the Sea, Chardonnay, Santa Barbara County, California** 45  
Sourced from organically grown grapes from Bien Nacido and Solomon Hills. Fresh, key lime and lemon curd.
- 2015 Ovum 'Memorista,' Riesling, Eola-Amity Hills, Oregon** 40  
John House tirelessly searches for just the right, yet usually forgotten, Riesling vineyards, in Oregon. His wines, I'm not embarrassed to say, touch the soul with incomparable aromatics and textures.

## Skin Contact Whites ('Orange')

- 2018 Swick, Marsanne, Columbia Valley, Washington** 50  
Vinified whole cluster and 60 days of skin maceration, producing an engaging blend of peach, pear, and cinnamon notes.
- 2016 Ronco Severo, Pinot Grigio, Venezia-Guilia, Italy** 50  
This is a "ramato" styled Pinot Grigio, where the pigmentation of the grape (which is actually copper, not greenish-yellow) creates a beautiful citrine color. The aromas are more reminiscent of a red wine, while the palate gives mandarin orange, stone fruit, and white tea.
- 2015 A.D. Beckham, Pinot Gris Anfora, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 75  
Drawing inspiration from the great Elisabetta Foradori, Andrew Beckham combined two passions (wine and art) constructing his own clay vessels (anfora) to produce outstanding skin contact wines with texture and vigor.
- 2017 Costador 'Metamorphika,' Macabeu Brisat, Conca de Barbera, Spain** 75  
Grapes macerate on their skins for 8 weeks, in clay amphorae, then in various French barrels for 5 months. Intoxicating texture and flavor.
- 2018 Matassa 'Cuvée Marguerite,' Macabeo/Muscat Blend, Rousillon, France** 75  
Tom Lubbe has the ability to make me snort laugh and excite my palate with stunning wine. This wildly aromatic wine has such impressive structure, that I was initially puzzled. It's an herbal explosion like freshly grinding herbs in a stone mortar; natty and fun.
- 2017 Anatolikos, Assyrtiko/Malagousia, Avdira, Thrace, Greece** 100  
From the eastern most vineyard in Greece, hand harvested, fermented and aged for 9 months in amphora. A mango lovers dream wine.
- 2012 Bernhard Ott 'Qvevre,' Grüner Veltliner, Wagram, Austria** 200  
This gorgeous rarity spent 8 months in underground amphora on its skins, but isn't amber-hued; instead, it has a shocking liveliness and clarity, and is one of the most unusual and essential Grüners you'll encounter.
- 2003 Gravner, Ribolla Gialla, Friuli, Italy** 230  
Hazy in color, finely tropical and lipid in flavor, this amphora-aged wine quickly develops great complexity.
- 2000 Radikon 'Fuori dal Tempo,' Chardonnay/Sauvignon, Oslavje, Venezia-Giulia, Italy** 260  
After 35 days with skins, 3 years in barrel & 9 years in bottle, this wine has layered, melismatic textures that strike the palate as polyphonic music does the ear; an unforgettable succession of independent melodies.

## Rosé

- 2018 Ameztot 'Rubentis', Hondarribi Beltza/ Hondarribi Zuri, Getariako Txakolina, Spain** 45  
This wine really needs no introduction as it has developed a bit of a cult following. A vibrant rosé made from a mix of red and white indigenous grapes that is bottled with a little residual CO2 to give it a light spritz. We have a porron ready at your request.
- 2018 Château la Genestière, Grenache/Syrah, Tavel, France** 45  
A triumphant vintage expressing the existential power of Tavel rosé. Contemplation rosé. Crafted for food, not the porch.
- 2018 Ingrid Groiss 'Hasenhaide,' Pinot Noir/Zweigelt, Niederösterreich, Austria** 45  
Annually, one of my favorite rosé's. Formerly known as "Sommerwein," in past vintages. Ingrid continues to capture the essence of summer!
- 2018 Prapas Bio Wines 'Oreads,' Black Muscat, Tyrnavos, Greece** 45  
A dark (2 weeks on the skins), dry (Muscat is savory, not sweet), and versatile (perfect for food pairing and the table), from Mt. Olympus.
- 2018 Frank Cornelissen 'Susucaru', Mt. Etna, Sicily** 60  
One of the best vintages I've tasted of this perennial favorite. It's a heady field blend that channels volcanic intensity into wild fruit.
- 2017 Brendan Tracey 'Rue de la Soif,' Pineau d'Aunis** 60  
Brendan's "Rue" (road) to thoughts of "endless summer" with Pineau d'Aunis ability to make us wish we lived in "perpetual autumn."

## French Reds – Loire Valley

- 2018 Hodgson (Mai et Kenji) 'Metro Boulot Grolé,' Grolleau, Rablay-sur-Layon** 50  
Mai et Kenji's wistful red so easy and fun to drink, you'll forget that you're on bottle number 3!
- 2017 Domaine le Briseau 'Patapon', Pineau d'Aunis, Coteaux-du-Loir** 60  
The wine that made Carl Moberg fall in love with Pineau d'Aunis; decidedly juicy & aromatic; dried flowers & currants.
- 2017 Laurent Saillard 'la pause,' Gamay, Touraine** 60  
Laurent employs a tronconic vat and ferments the grapes whole cluster. Crisp, savory, and crunchy. Just the way I like my Gamay!
- 2016 Brendan Tracey, Pineau d'Aunis, Côteaux du Vendômois** 65  
120 year old vines, carbonic maceration of whole, undamaged grapes in fiberglass for 30 days, followed by 11 months in 15 year old oak barrels. I'll never forget the first time I had this wine, how it made me feel, and how I never wanted that day to end.
- 2018 Laurent Saillard 'Scarlette,' Pineau d'Aunis/Gamay, Touraine** 65  
Laurent would love to bottle a single varietal Pineau d'Aunis, but feels adding 1/3 Gamay is necessary. Lean, lush, and lingering.
- 2016 Domaine de Montcy 'Louis de la Saussaye,' Pinot Noir/Malbec/Gamay, Cheverny** 60  
After tasting this last year in France, I couldn't wait for it to arrive stateside. Enticing aromas of cranberry, pomegranate, and rose. I heart it!
- 2015 Lambert (Béatrice et Pascal) 'Les Puys,' Cabernet Franc, Chinon, France** 65  
Lambert's bottling from outside of Chinon and up from the riverbed, sitting on yellow chalk. Abundantly blissful, wonderfully thoughtful.
- 2013 Olga Raffault 'La Picasses,' Cabernet Franc, Chinon** 65  
From one of the loveliest couples in the wine world. The 2013 is so forgiving and precise. Archetypal Cab Franc, from Chinon. These wines should be monumentally more expensive. The lesson here, lovely, beautiful people aren't greedy.
- 2015 Agnes & Rene Mosse, Cabernet Sauvignon/Cabernet Franc, Anjou** 65  
Cabernet's from schist, gravel, and quartz?! Spontaneous maceration and fermentation? Textbook Mosse with depth and finesse.
- 2013 Domaine Roches Neuves 'Terres Chaude,' Cabernet Franc, Saumur-Champigny** 90  
Arguably no one in the Loire is producing Cabernet Franc quite like Thierry Germain. Pro tip for the insiders: this wine comes from the lieu-dit "Les Poyeux!" I'm talking to you, Clos Rougeard hunters.

## French Reds – Burgundy & Jura

- 2017 Tercet, Pinot Noir, Bourgogne** 50  
Marc Soyard took over Domaine de la Cras, and immediately converted it to organic farming. A wonderfully pure expression of Pinot Noir.
- 2016 Tripoz (Céline et Laurent) 'Chant de la Tour,' Pinot Noir, Bourgogne** 60  
From a vineyard that has never seen any synthetic products used on it. Righteous, über Pinot, soul of Bourgogne.
- 2015 Thierry Richoux, Pinot Noir, Irancy** 65  
West of Dijon, 90 miles, sits the commune of Irancy. Lesser known now, but that hasn't always been the case. Fine Pinot. Find out why.
- 2015 Domaine Guillot-Broux 'La Myotte,' Bourgogne, Macon** 70  
From the oldest vines on the estate comes this an intensely driven, lithe expression of Pinot; stunning purity.
- 2008 Bruno Clair, Premier Cru 'La Dominode,' Savigny-les-Beaune** 135  
From a miniscule, sunny site and a great year, this favorite is powerful for an '08; plum, cumin, and more.
- 2015 Dom. de la Vougeraie, Gevrey-Chambertin** 160  
A vintage that lends itself to having the ability to drink now! What we call a "restaurant vintage." Beauty and power from Gevrey.
- 2016 Michel Gahier 'Vigne du Louis,' Trousseau, Arbois, Jura** 70  
Michel is a master of Trousseau and this fuller, fleshier example has dense fruit that flows to a suave body with purity and life.
- 2016 Ganevat 'Y'a bon the Canon,' Gamay+, Savoie, France** 85  
Due to devastating loss of grapes in multiple vintages, Jean-Francois reached out to his sister, Anne, as well as friends throughout France, to innovate and create a blend that could only be achieved by such a legend! 50% Gamay, 50% "Vin de France" = 100% sublimity.
- 2016 Ganevat 'De Toute Beauté,' Vin de France in the best way possible, Savoie, France** 115  
In a word, "Wow!" A tear falls from my eye when I think of this wine. The composition is Gamay, from Fleurie; Syrah, from Côte Rotie; Mondeuse, from Savoie; and Pinot Noir, from Alsace. Sourced solely from organic vineyards. Jean-Francois Ganevat=mythic god.
- 2015 Philippe Bornard 'Point barre,' Ploussard, Arbois** 135  
My level of excitement receiving an allocation of this wine is OFF. THE. CHARTS! Bornard's wines are prime examples of lively, precise, and artistic expressions. His Ploussard is in another stratosphere and worth every single penny.

## French Reds – Beaujolais (Gamay) (*Crus listed from North to South*)

- 2014 Robert-Denogent ‘Cuvée Jules Chauvet,’ Villages** 60  
Comprised of grapes sourced from the late Jules, and Benedicte Chauvet vineyards. Jules was known as France’s greatest tasters of wine, and father to the natural wine movement. His book remains a “bible” to natural winemakers. This incredible wine is dedicated to his legacy!
- 2016 Remi Dufaitre, Julié纳斯** 70  
Remi’s offering from the northern cru, Julié纳斯. Vines are 65 years old. Fermented in concrete and remains in the same tank for 6 months.
- 2017 Anthony Thevenet, Vieilles Vignes, Chénas** 80  
Old vine Gamay, planted in 1940, from a relatively flat site on decomposed granite. Red and dark fruits, with mineral muscle.
- 2018 Yann Bertrand ‘Cuvée du Chaos,’ Fleurie** 70  
Yann is the THE young gun winemaker, in Beaujolais. His passion for wine and winemaking stems from his roots in Beaujolais, as well as his mentorship from legends Jean Foillard, Yvon Metras, and Jean-Louis Dutraive. The essence of fresh, lively, herbal, and spiced Gamay.
- 2017 Dutraive ‘Le Pied de la Rue,’ Fleurie** 90  
Jean-Louis wanted to produce a wine from the Chanudet family’s hillside climate, “La Madone.” The vines face south at a 40 degree slope on pink granite. Neary a ha’p’orth was produced. Stocks are limited.
- 2018 Guy Breton, Chiroubles** 80  
From some of the highest vineyards in Beaujolais, leaning to softer smells of violets lain next to a musky saddle.
- 2016 Jean-Paul Thévenet, Morgon** 70  
Old vine Gamay, and it needed to be to survive a disastrous ’16 vintage. Time is serving this wine well. Time to serve it to you!
- 2016 Jean Foillard ‘Les Chaumes Eponym,’ Morgon** 100  
The legend, Jean Foillard! Charmes Eponym comes from a *lieu-dit* composed of schist, granite, & manganese. Power and grace personified.
- 2018 Marcel Lapierre, Morgon** 65  
Marcel was a leader in the ‘natural’ wine world and member of the famed “gang of four.” His children (Mathieu and Camille) carry on this tradition. I adore this wine for it’s perfectly focused and refined expression of Gamay.
- 2018 Guy Breton, Vieilles Vignes, Morgon** 80  
Breton’s principal wine, from 80 year-old vines. Unusual to find such pepper and spice in Morgon. Stony and structured, utterly ethereal.
- 2018 Guy Breton, Régnié** 75  
Beaujolais youngest cru, and underrepresented, which is just too bad. There’s power, maybe not Morgon power, of redcurrants and raspberries, nervy and stylistic.
- 2016 Dutraive, Domaine de la Grand’cour, Brouilly** 70  
On par with some of the great Côte du Py’s from Morgon. Serious, age-worthy Gamay from their old vines and a stunning vintage.
- 2017 Alex Foillard, Brouilly** 110  
Jean’s son, Alex, is sprinting with the family torch in non-intervention farming, minimal intervention, and bonkers good Bojo.
- 2017 Pierre Cotton, Côte de Brouilly** 75  
I gush with glee regarding Pierre’s wines and was thrilled to finally see them come to Chicago! I begged. A LOT. See why.

## French Reds – Bordeaux & Cahors

- 2012 Chateau Falfas, Côtes de Bourg** 70  
A stunning example of Right Bank Bordeaux at a price that is a fraction for what others pay for a bottle this good. Take advantage!
- 2014 Chateau Rocher Corbin, Montagne-St. Émilion** 70  
From vineyards at the highest point of Calons, the wine shows an impressive display of dark plum and baking spice. Splendid Bordeaux.
- 2016 Cassini, St. Émilion** 65  
Don’t be afraid of the age, or the price. Beautifully crafted Merlot from, possibly, the finest terrior in the world. A quiet revolution has begun.
- 2015 Clos du Jaugeyron, Haut-Médoc** 90  
The soils around Arsac, is comprised of clay, which leads to more fruit driven wines. Little oak is used, and not needed. Outstanding!
- 2017 Fabien Jouvès ‘Les Roches,’ Malbec, Cahors** 55  
What I would consider this “radical Malbec,” Fabien searches for parcels that will allow him to express the nuances of the grape that are criminally muted with oak and over-ripening. The savage aromatics are incomparable to the other Malbecs (aka Côt) in his region of Cahors.

## French Reds – Northern Rhône

- 2015 Domaine de la Petite Gallee 'Cuvée 1896,' Gamay, Coteaux du Lyonnais** 85  
Patrice Thollet biodynamically farms a small hamlet known as Heart of Millery. The vineyard sets on glacial debris and it shows in the minerality. Incredibly small, meticulous production. Only 48 bottles came into Illinois. Drink one!!
- 2015 Jean Claude Marsanne, Syrah, Saint Joseph** 80  
"Old School" purity and expression due in large part to healthy vines, hand harvesting, and 12 months in barrel in a blend of sizes.
- 2017 Romaneaux-Destezet (Hervé Souhart) 'Le Souteronne,' Gamay, Saint Joseph** 85  
Gamay? YES! Gamay in the Northern Rhône from the inimitable Hervé Souhart. You can expect the weight of the wine to be that of great Beaujolais, with the dark, bacon-y aromas that are indicative of Syrah's from this area.
- 2017 Romaneaux-Destezet (Hervé Souhart) Syrah, Saint Joseph** 90  
Popular wisdom would lead you to believe a wine like this would need years to become approachable. Souhart defies this pretense by utilizing subtle techniques to extract purity and finesse. The result is a stunning expression of plum, violets, and bacon fat.
- 2016 Frank Balthazar, Syrah, Crozes-Hermitage** 70  
Frank is humble and engaging. His wines match his personality perfectly. His Syrah's check all the boxes of what archetypal Northern Rhône should possess: restrained fruit, hints of cigar box and bacon, wrapped around kalamata olive.
- 2017 Dard et Ribo, Crozes-Hermitage** 100  
Easily one of my favorite producers in the region. Iconoclasts from the outset, René-Jean and François sought to buck the trend of heavily extracted, fat Syrah overburdened by oak. Their wines still exhibit all the savage nature of Syrah with a deft, wild elegance.
- 2010 Dard et Ribo, Syrah, Hermitage** 160  
Do not miss out on experiencing René-Jean and François' expression from this epic place, and an epic vintage.

## French Reds – Southern Rhône

- 2016 Eric Texier 'Brézème,' Syrah, Côtes du Rhône** 60  
Vinified unabashedly naturelle, without flaws, and pissing off Master Somms day by day. Unintentionally. Undeniable power and elegance.
- 2016 Domaine Vieux Lazaret, Châteauneuf-du-Pape** 75  
Accessible and immediately pleasurable; this is the wine version of wrapping yourself in a warm blanket; elegant, spiced red fruit.
- 2008 Château de Fonsalette, Grenache/Syrah/Cinsault, Côtes du Rhône** 280  
Challenging vintages bring out the best from the best winemakers. What Emmanuel was able to produce from 2008 is nothing short of heroic. I happily accepted my tiny allocation knowing that quality is far more important than quantity.

## French Reds – The South & Corsica

- 2014 Les Enfants Sauvages 'Roi des Lézards,' Carignan, Roussillon** 60  
Carignan from the coastal area, Fitou, sitting on limestone and clay. The team at Les Enfants Sauvages draw their inspiration from Jim Morrison, and The Doors song, "Wild Child." I find this wine much more melodic and poetic than anything Morrison recorded, IMO.
- 2017 Matin Calme 'Mano a Mano,' Grenache/Carignan, Roussillon** 60  
It's baaaa-aaaack! One of our most popular, and asked for wines, in all of it's semi-carbonic deliciousness. Sadly, no longer glass pourable.
- 2017 Roc d'Anglade, Carignan/Syrah/Grenache/Mourvèdre, Gard, Languedoc-Roussillon** 80  
At first blush, you'd swear you are drinking upper crust Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Remy Pédréno bucks bureaucracy to create fun/serious wine.
- 2018 Frédéric Brouca 'Champs Pentus,' Grenache Blend, Faugères** 40  
Made in a traditional style (partial whole cluster, no fining or filtration, minimal sulfur), this relatively new estate is producing impressive wines. Boundless ripe, chewy fruit and a tractor ride through the garrigue of the south of France.
- 2015 Maxime Magnon 'Campagnès,' Carignan, Corbières** 70  
All the credit for this selection making our list goes out to my friend, Cassie Sakai! This wine is the complete package for old vine Carignan.
- 2017 Clos Marfisi 'Gritole,' Niellucciu, Patrimonio, Corsica** 60  
Mathieu and Julie Marfisi have steadfastly resisted the use of herbicides and pesticides, even when pressured by their neighbors to do so. Niellucciu is the ultimate combination of French/Italian nuance and soul.
- 2015 Abbattucci 'Ministre Imperial', Taravo Valley, Corsica** 130  
Crafted this from a range of varietals, most of ancient origin, which Jean-Charles & his father saved from extinction. The most stunning wine to grace my lips, in 2019! Eh-hem. It's also an absolute steal at this price.

## Natty Austrian & Greek Reds

- 2016 Pittnauer, St. Laurent, Burgenland, Austria** 50  
Gerhard is the kind of vigneron that I look for. He believes in "growing" his wines in the vineyard, instead of "making" them in the cellar.
- 2017 Oenops 'Xinomav-RAW,' Xinomavro, Drama, Greece** 70  
"Acid black" as its translation suggests, fermented in amphora (clay vessels) followed by 6 months aging in egg shaped amphora, creates an easy drinking, and ever so pleasing alternative to Gamay. If there could even be one.
- 2016 Anatolikos, Mavroudi/Limnio, Xanthi, Greece** 100  
A rare combination of grapes fermented and aged for 9 months in amphora. Seductively dark, chewy, with tobacco, cocoa nibs and raw power. VROOM VROOM!

## Italian Reds – North to South

- 2012 Vigneti Massa 'Perticheta,' Croatina, Monleale, Piemonte** 70  
Croatina is a fascinating, yet relatively unknown varietal, in Piedmont. Dolcetto with a tannic edge and age worthy
- 2017 Vigne Marina Coppi 'Sant'Andrea,' Barbera, Colli Tortonesi, Piemonte** 60  
A gorgeous expression of Barbera that is on par with some of the best around Barolo. The Colli Tortonesi is relatively unknown due to its rugged and rustic terrain. Which was perfect for training, famous race cycling brothers, Angelo and Serse Coppi.
- 2016 Colombera & Garella, Nebbiolo, Bramaterra, Alto Piemonte** 100  
The volcanic soils of Bramaterra lend itself to expressive and lively tones in Nebbiolo. A touch of native Vespolina and Croatina and spice.
- 2016 Colombera & Garella, Nebbiolo, Lessona, Alto Piemonte** 100  
To the west of Bramaterra, sits Lessona. Also known for their Nebbiolo showing distinct orange rind and violet tones with incredible depth.
- 2016 Scarpa 'Bric du Nota,' Nebbiolo, Alba, Monferrato, Piemonte** 90  
A monumental vintage expressing the attributes that makes one fall in love with Nebbiolo. We only received 6 bottles. They'll be gone by next week.
- 2014 Meroi 'Nestri,' Merlot/Refosco, Friuli** 60  
Damiano Meroi crafts world class wines that typically fetch higher prices. Nestri shows the power of his Merlot vines, with the food pairing capabilities that Refosco brings to the table.
- 2015 Bussola 'Ca' del Laito,' Valpolicella Ripasso, Veneto, Italy** 65  
Tommaso Bussola farms very steep slopes which allows him the ability to not need to use unethical and nonorganic means. This is not the "heavy and cloying" wines associated with Valpolicella. That doesn't mean that the flavor profile you remember.
- 2017 Montenedoli, Colorino, Tuscany** 55  
Known only to "color" Chianti, it was by a dare that Elisabetta started producing this as a single varietal. And, it's extraordinary!
- 2016 Le Boncie 'Il Cinque,' Sangiovese, Tuscany** 70  
Once sold solely at the winery, we are fortunate to have this mighty Sangiovese on our list. A touch of oak doesn't overpower this one.
- 2017 Poderi Sanguinetto, Prugnolo Gentile (Sangiovese), Rosso di Montepulciano** 50  
Dora Forsoni's wines exude her personality: traditional, a bit rustic but altogether charming & balanced; structured dark cherries.
- 2017 Frank Cornelissen 'Sususcaru,' Nerello Mascalese Blend, Etna, Sicily** 60  
Formerly known as "Contadino" the name changed had to be changed due to copyright infringement. Frank has always produced intriguing thought-provoking wines. However, recently the wines have dramatically improved, shedding their volatile, slightly erratic character. The wines are still unique but now the elegant, vibrant character shows through more clearly.
- 2016 Occhipinti 'Il Frappato,' Frappato, Vittoria, Sicily** 75  
A dynamic & energetic wine with profound notes of lingonberries, oregano, earth & a striking, savory mineral character.
- 2016 Passopisciaro 'Passorosso,' Narello Mascalese, Mt. Etna, Sicily** 75  
Passopisciaro set the standard, on Mt. Etna, for single "Crus," or "Contrada's" as they are known in the region. "Passorosso" is a blend of many of these Contrada, offering a the brightness and balance of Pinot Noir from Santennay/Marsannay, Burgundy, with the structure of fine Nebbiolo, from Barolo. Their vineyards sit on the north side of Etna, enjoying long days of sun exposure and wind, with very cool nights.

## Spanish Reds

- 2017 Clos Figueras 'Serras del Priorat,' Grenache/Carignan/Syrah, Priorat, Spain** 65  
Christopher Cannan can be credited with first importing some of the finest wines from Priorat, to the US. This connection to the area enabled him to purchase 10 ha of steep, terraced vineyards overlooking the Montsant River Valley. Cocoa, cumin, and tarragon highlight.
- 2016 Costador 'Metamorphika,' Garnatxa, Conca de Barbera, Spain** 70  
Grapes macerated with their skins for 10 months, in clay amphorae, then in French barrels for five months. Epically exciting juice!
- 2017 Cume do Avia 'Dos Canotos,' Brancellao/Sausón, O Ribeiro, Spain** 75  
The first vintage of this fabled wine to arrive in Chicago! If you love Beaujolais, this is your next new frontier to explore!
- 2014 Louis Rodriguez 'Eidos Ermos,' Brancellao/Caiño/Ferrol, O Ribeiro, Spain** 50  
We had the pleasure of spending a marvelous afternoon with Louis, at his home, walking through "vineyards" that reminded me of walking through a community garden. Savage growth, yet impeccably natural and maintained.
- 2014 Bodegas Bhilar 'Phincas,' Tempranillo, Rioja, Spain** 60  
David Sampedro Gil, dogged believer in biodynamics and the harmonious link between Earth, the human being, the cosmos and the vineyards. This wine exhibits the powerful side of Rioja, without needing to add nefarious additives to achieve such results.
- 2010 La Antigua Clásico Reserva, Graciano/Tempranillo, Rioja, Spain** 60  
A unique blend of 60% Graciano and only 30% Tempranillo. Make no mistake, this has all the archetypal Rioja sensory hallmarks.
- 2016 Bodegas Proexa 'Vega Valterra,' Bobal, Utiel-Requena, Spain** 45  
Bobal loves the heat, which it gets plenty of in this area due west of Valencia. However, it is able to produce wines that display a lovely acidity to go along with dark fruits and juicy disposition. From the first certified organic bodega in this Denominacion de Origen.



## North American Reds - Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier, Gamay

- 2014 Andrew Rich 'Marine Sedimentary Soil,' Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 70  
I find Andrew's wines to be some of the most thoughtful, flavorful, and elegant, as any I've ever had. This is the first vintage that Andrew produced wines, not necessarily from a single vineyard, but from single soil sites! The difference in these two wines is unique, fascinating, and a study in Oregon terroir.
- 2015 Brooks 'Janus,' Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 70  
We are huge supporters of Brooks, and proud to offer the exquisitely drinking Janus. Mainly estate fruit, with the addition of top vineyards.
- 2016 Cameron, Pinot Noir, Dundee Hills, Oregon** 70  
John Paul is not a newcomer to the Dundee Hills. In fact, since 1984, Cameron has made a name for the Clos Electrique vineyard. This offering is a blend of Clos Electrique and Abbey Ridge Vineyard. Exactly what you expect, dark cherries, rhubarb, and baking spices.
- 2014 Fausse Piste 'The Vegetable Lamb,' Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 70  
Former chef, Jesse Skiles, was born in the Northwest and channels both his heritage and palate, into incredibly captivating Pinot Noir!
- 2015 iOTA Winery 'Not One,' Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 60  
From iOTA's Pelos Sandberg Vineyard, and a tremendous value at that. A bit of French Oak spices up this "Oregundian" Pinot to great heights.
- 2018 Swick Winery, Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon** 60  
Joe Swick, at first glance, seems the charming, schoolboy type. Don't be fooled. He learned early that the best wines express their place through authenticity. His many harvests abroad showed him the advantages of minimalistic winemaking and "*no maquillage*."
- 2013 Scar of the Sea 'Q Block,' Bien Nacido Vineyards, Santa Barbara, California** 70  
A small block of exceptional vines from one of the best farmed and well-known vineyards. Intense concentration and stunning complexity.
- 2014 Robert Sinskey, Pinot Noir, Los Carneros, California** 80  
A champion of low impact farming, a Sinskey wine is always one of purity, typicity, and enjoyment. Never one to chase "points" and there's no need to. The wines are made as beautifully today as they ever have been.
- 2016 Whitcraft Winery, Gamay, Pence Ranch, Santa Rita Hills, California** 75  
Chris Whitcraft started this winery in 1985. Sadly, we lost Chris in 2014, and his son Drake, has taken over the meticulous methods of producing high quality wine without manipulation and tricks.
- 2017 Arnot-Roberts, Gamay, El Dorado, California** 55  
High elevation Gamay fermented whole cluster and partial carbonic maceration. Snappy, fresh, juicy, and fun. Who isn't looking for that?
- 2017 Jolie-Laide 'Borsotti Vineyards,' Gamay, El Dorado, California** 75  
Two passes, one early in the harvest season, one later, produced a much fleshier, riper, Gamay, than in years past. Semi-carbonic maceration with whole clusters, before being foot-trodden into neutral barrique. Pop this cork anytime, anywhere, with any food.

## North American Reds – Bordeaux Grapes

- 2017 Andrew Rich 'Rich Table,' Cabernet Sauvignon, Columbia Valley, Washington** 50  
Andrew has the rare talent of producing amazing Pinot Noir AND Cabernet Sauvignon. Rich Table exudes dark fruit without winemaker tricks.
- 2016 Sleight of Hand 'The Conjuror,' Cabernet Sauvignon/Cabernet Franc/Merlot, Columbia Valley, Washington** 65  
Jerry Solomon and Trey Busch developed a masterful partnership producing some "magical" wines. The label is, wait for it, "legen-dary."
- 2014 Enfield Wine Co. 'XB 01/Unbound,' Merlot, Napa Valley, California** 70  
Winemakers John Lockwood and Amy Seese, focus on producing wines that tell a unique story rather than provide "cookie cutter" characteristics. Unbound is a fresh look at Merlot. Highlighting its true fruit characteristics without masking them in a ton of oak.
- 2017 Inconnu, Merlot, Napa Valley, California** 85  
Laura Brennen Bissell is utilizing beautifully farmed Carneros grapes, elaborating them with grace, and crafting rock star status Merlot!
- 2017 Pearl Morrisette 'Metis Rouge,' Cabernet Franc, Niagara Peninsula, Canada** 60  
Francois Morrisette combines a career as a sommelier with years learning winemaking from luminaries, such as Roulot and Alain Gras, in pursuit of crafting world-class wines, in Ontario. Amongst true industry professionals, we agree, that he is succeeding.
- 2014 Arnot-Roberts, Cabernet Sauvignon, Clajoux Vineyard, Sonoma, California** 110  
Sourced from just 12 rows of vines in a rocky, volcanic, cool-temperature site in the Mayacamas, this is a masterpiece for Cabernet: essential, memorable flavors unfurl in a slow development on the palate.

## American Reds – Fun Grapes

- 2018 Pax Mahle Wines, Carbonic Valdigué, Suisun Valley, California** 60  
Quite possibly the most fun and enjoyable wine I've had from California. It's "rub your doggy's belly, listen to your favorite LP" delicious.
- 2018 'Combe' by Stolpmann Vineyards, Trousseau, Ballard Canyon, California** 60  
In partnership with Rajat Parr, this Trousseau combines the light color and high intensity of Jura Trousseau, with the freshness, and a hint of carbonic, for glou-glou.
- 2018 Absentee Winery 'Flaws,' Abouriou, Mendocino, California** 70  
"Flaws" refers to Avi Deixler's practice of hand sanding used barrels to rid the walls of flaws, and other chemicals that would change the profile of his wine. Abouriou is an early ripening grape most commonly found in the south-west of France. Think Gamay and Loire Valley Malbec (Côt) crossed their streams and defeated a gigantic marshmallow.
- 2014 Dusted Valley, Petite Sirah, Wahluke Slope, Columbia Valley, Washington** 80  
Big, bold, big. Wait! Did I mention BIG?! This wine was left to its own devices and did what Petite Sirah does; grow up fast.
- 2014 Peter Franus, Zinfandel, Brandlin Vineyard, Mount Veeder, California** 80  
Chester Brandlin oversaw his family's Mt. Veeder parcel until his death, in 2013. He staunchly believed in preserving the environment and not disrupting nature in the process of making wine. Elegant, intoxicating. If I were to introduce a non-American to Zin, this would be it.

## American Reds – Rhône Grapes

- 2013 Hedges ‘Descendants Liegeois Dupont,’ Syrah, Red Mountain, Washington** 60  
Sarah Goedhart has propelled the wines of Hedges to new heights after converting the vineyards to organic farming. Quintessential Washington state Syrah you’d think is a dead ringer for Northern Rhône.
- 2017 A Tribute to Grace ‘1919,’ Grenache, Hofer Ranch Vineyard, California** 70  
Gnarly, old, tree trunk vines that produce very little fruit, outside of Ranch Cucamonga. Angela Osborne knew Chicago’s Steve Sullivan (owner of VineJoy distributors) loved this vineyard and sent a barrel sample. The only “private label” she’s ever done and even adorned the label with Chicago’s iconic “four red stars!”
- 2018 Stolpman Vineyards ‘Syrah So Hot,’ Syrah, Ballard Canyon, California** 75  
Crafty Peter Stolpman is at it again. This offering shows that with some old world techniques, some by which are utilized by legend, Thierry Allemand, Stolpman’s dark, ripe, Syrah, can produce ethereal tones that we love about great Cornas and St. Joseph. Sans Soufre!
- 2016 Keplinger ‘Lithic,’ Grenache/Mourvèdre/Syrah, Amador County, California** 100
- 2016 Keplinger ‘Sumō,’ Petite Sirah/Syrah/Viognier, Amador County, California** 100  
Helen Keplinger’s meteoric rise up through the winemaking ranks has seen her at the helm of some prestigious wineries, in Napa Valley. However, her own wine label reflects her love of Grenache, from her days making wine in Priorat, Spain. It’s a rare treat to be able to offer her wines at this price! When I first started working with them, I was allocated 3 bottles each! And, they were expensive. Take full advantage.

## Southern Hemisphere Reds

- 2017 S.C. Pannell ‘Basso,’ Garnacha, McLaren Vale, Australia** 55  
Stephen Pannell’s holistic approach to his vineyards has landed him empirical status amongst those in McLaren Vale. Beaujolais-esque Garnacha. Delightful and dangerously easy to drink.
- 2015 Koomilya, Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz, McLaren Vale, Australia** 150  
From a vineyard that you can’t visit, nor even find on a Google maps, Stephen Pannell will only make wines under the Koomilya label, in perfect vintages. This blend is 80% Cab, and 20% Shiraz. It’s the first vintage ever produced. If conditions never equal 2015, it may be the only! Now, that is a pursuit for perfection. And, well worth it!
- 2015 El Enemigo, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina** 60  
Former head of the soil division at the Argentina Winery Institute, as well as head wine maker of Catena Zapalta, Alejandro Vigil is producing exciting, soil, terroir driven wines in Luján de Cuyo.

## Emerging, Historic, Not to be Overlooked Reds

- 2015 Tchotiashvili, Saperavi, Kakheti, Georgia** 45  
Saperavi literally translates to paint, dye, or to give color. This brilliant wine is fermented in traditional qvevri which produces a unique flavor and texture that has no equal.
- 2007 Shavnbada, Saperavi, Kakheti, Georgia** 60  
A medieval Georgian Orthodox Monastery that was restored in 1992, and producing wines since 1998. The Saperavi macerates on the skins for two weeks before it goes into qvevri. The 2007 spent EIGHT years in qvevri, never fined or filtered, and expresses power and finesse that is mesmerizing.
- 2017 Casa Vieja, Mission grape, Valle de Guadalupe, Baja, Mexico** 55  
Mission is the first grape to be planted in the Americas. Brought over by Spanish missionaries to southern Chile, where it is known as Pías, and eventually working its way north. Casa Vieja is sets itself apart from their neighbors in Guadalupe for their unwavering stance on organic farming and minimal intervention winemaking. In fact, at one time, they supplied Baja darling, Bichi, with grapes because the Téllez family knew they were well farmed correctly and would make great “natural” wine.
- 2017 Bichi, Listan, Tecate, Baja, Mexico** 55  
Listan Prieto, aka Mission, grape is catalogued as the first grape varietal to come the Americas from Europe (circa 1540). The Téllez family first vintage was 2014, and the wines simply keep getting better. Uniquely Baja. Floral and peppery.
- 2013 Vena Cava ‘Big Blend,’ Syrah/Cabernet/Petite Sirah, Baja, Mexico** 85  
If you’ve read an article regarding wine in the Valle de Guadalupe, you were no doubt introduced to Phil Gregory. Phil, and his wife cashed in their careers in England and moved to the Baja to surf and chill in a hammock all day. He picked up making a little bit of wine as a hobby. His wines are more than mere weekend projects, and for my money, the best the Valle has to offer. His winery is adorned with old surfboards and is a must for any visit to Guadalupe. The blend also includes Zinfandel and Grenache. Not uncommon in Mexico. A hardy red indeed.

## Large Format Bottles

- 2016 De Moor 'Le Vendangeur Masqué,' Grenache Blanc/Viognier, Rhône Valley, France 135 (*magnum* – 1.5L)  
Devastated by hail, losing all of their Chardonnay vintage, Alice and Olivier reached out to friends in the south for grapes to produce this special bottling.
- 2015 Dard et Ribo, Syrah, Crozes-Hermitage, Northern Rhône, France 180 (*magnum* – 1.5L)  
Iconoclasts from the outset, René-Jean and François sought to buck the trend of heavily extracted, fat Syrah overburdened by oak. Their wines still exhibit all the savage nature of Syrah with a deft, wild elegance.
- 2005 Brovia 'Villero', Barolo 350 (*magnum* - 1.5L)  
This single-vineyard Barolo is just starting to turn a corner; all spicy chai tea, balsamic, licorice, and more.

## Library Whites

- 2003 Nicolas Joly 'Coulée de Serrant,' Chenin Blanc, Savennières 160  
One of the world's legendary wines; its tightly knit textures and earthy evocations require early decanting.
- 2004 Domaine Weinbach 'Cuvée Laurence,' Pinot Gris, Kaysersberg, Alsace 120  
One of the loveliest Pinot Gris I've encountered, striking you with a full-bodied, tropical, earthy 'trueness'.
- 2002 Nikolaihof 'Burggarten,' Riesling Jungfernwien, Wachau 100  
Harvested from vines adjacent to the house, this site is said to have dated to the time of Charlemagne. Incredibly ripe fruit was fermented low and slow with a whisper of RS; an absolutely stunning example of well-aged Riesling from one of the finest producers.
- 1990 Leth, Roter Veltliner, Wagram 170  
Proof positive that Roter is built to age, this delight is smoky and briny and umami-ey, w/bonito & mango.
- 1993 Nikolaihof 'Vinothek', Grüner Veltliner Smaragd, Wachau 250  
In special years, the Saahs family at Nikolaihof decides to cellar a wine in giant neutral oak cask, and leave it undisturbed for up to 20 years, until it's ready to bottle. It's unbelievably pure, with something very essential and life-affirming in every sip.
- 1995 Eyrie, 'Reserve,' Chardonnay, Willamette Valley, Oregon 210  
These Chardonnay vines were planted in 1966. David Lett's son, Jason, developed a 21 point certification that is more than an assurance that these wines are sound, free of flaws, and devoid of "cork taint." This wine should command the attention of any serious connoisseur.

## Library Reds

- 2009 Bernard Burgaud, Syrah, Côte-Rôtie 120  
This allocated, small-production, traditional wine will knock your socks off; gamey, dark, unforgettable. Give this one time to open up.
- 2008 Rene Rostaing, Syrah, Côte-Rôtie 180  
You simply cannot talk about the Côte-Rôtie without mentioning Rene Rostaing. Dogmatic in making wines that only speak to the Côte-Rôtie, not Hermitage, and certainly not New World. His techniques, some modern, some ancient, only assist to accentuate his prized fruit.
- 2004 Giuseppe Mascarello 'Monprivato,' Nebbiolo, Barolo, Piedmont, Italy 400  
Monprivato is a symbol of excellence, in Barolo, and the 2004 was a magical vintage. Symphonic blend of flower, fruit, and Earth. A masterpiece!
- 2007 Bartolo Mascarello, Nebbiolo, Barolo, Italy 350  
After Bartolo's passing in 2005, his daughter, Maria-Theresa took the helm. In doing so, she continues her father's traditional vinification methods, using large botti and blending across vineyards. A Bartolo Mascarello is a world-class wine experience of structure and nuance.