



ISSUE 55 2017 / ANNE KREBIEHL MW ON CLONAL DIVERSITY IN PINOT NOIR
2015 BURGUNDY / 2012 BAROLO / RANGEN DE THANN / ANOTHER SIDE OF NAPA

2017 - Issue 55

MAISON ALBERT BICHOT

Fixin Premier Cru Clos de la Perrière (Monopole)

AK | The nose is shy but shows a light, perfumed lift of something coniferous. The fruit is tart and red but ripe and there is a lovely, herb-scented aroma. This is delicious, light on its feet, slender and charming. There is slight grip, lovely structure, and complete freshness. If you like slender styles, this delivers balance with little weight. Bravo. | **91**

Chambolle-Musigny Premier Cru Les Amoureuses

AK | A redcurrant-scented lift on the nose. This mingles with the softest touch of vanilla and a sense of wet stone. These lovely flavors also harmonize on the creamy, soft palate. It is on the mid-palate that the richness and warmth of the wine become apparent. This is almost hefty, but in muscle, not in fat. The charming red fruit lightens and brightens and echoes long. | **92**

Nuits-St-Georges Premier Cru Château-Gris (Monopole)

AK | Tender and pure notes of fresh red berry and forest fruit. The slender palate has a light touch and comes across as fleet of foot. It is only on the finish that a certain power and a distinct warmth shine through. This has lots of charm and wonderfully aromatic fruit. | **90**



2015 BURGUNDY

Côte de Nuits

DOMAINE DU CLOS FRANTIN (ALBERT BICHOT)

Chambertin Grand Cru

AK | Reduction still clings to the nose. The palate has a juicy graininess that speaks of ripe, red cherry. There is something almost boisterous and lively, softly toned down by mocha hints of oak. The fruit underneath is lovely and pure and rings with freshness. The structure is tight but pliable. | **93**

Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru

AK | Slight smoke and slight vanilla are signaled on the nose. The gentle and taut body is characterized by tart, fresh cherry fruit. There is a very fine web of palpable tannins and a welcome freshness that counters richer mocha notes of oak. There is lovely balance, suppleness, and length. | **93**

Vosne-Romanée Premier Cru Malconsorts

AK | As always, something darkly brooding and floral hovers above Malconsorts. Still closed but the body has a layered richness of darker aspects: bramble, peony, dark cherry. Freshness pervades the glossy, tightly knit palate and underlines the wonderful balance. Seamless elegance. | **94**

Echézeaux Grand Cru

AK | This is astonishingly ready: so pliable and harmonious, so gentle and rich, one could have it for dinner tonight. The structure is finely chiseled, the super-fine tannins settle like delicious dust on the tongue and provide a fine frame for exquisite cherry fruit, flanked by gentlest vanilla. The finish is lip-smacking and deliciously long. | **94**



Tasters : **AK** Anne Krebiehl MW | **NB** Neil Beckett | **MB** Michel Bettane | **ME** Mickael Edwards



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Chablis

DOMAINE LONG-DEPAQUIT

Chablis Premier Cru Les Lys

ME | A special part of Vaillons, for its northeast exposure and high proportion of clay—cooling factors that make it an ideal foil in such talented hands as these for the heat of 2015. Wonderfully refreshing, approachable but with exceptional depth, substance, and tension. The most delightful Chablis en primeur surprise. Outstanding value. | **93**

Chablis Grand Cru Les Blanchots

ME | This is one of the very few Blanchots that shines in 2015, most others suffering from the hail that fell shortly before harvest. Its clay and limestone soil with ferrous elements, plus the right morning sunshine, delivers that magical floral character and exceptional finesse. Bravo! | **94**



2015 BURGUNDY

Côte de Beaune

DOMAINE DU PAVILLON (ALBERT BICHOT)

Meursault Premier Cru Charmes

NB | From the superior Charmes-Dessus, harvested on September 5-6. A beautiful, graceful scent: balanced, complex, pure, ripe yellow fruit, light camomile, a touch of vanilla. Ample and richly silky, very good concentration but incision, too, from the citrus cut, and a flourishing finish. | **92**

Pommard Premier Cru Rugiens

AK | A touch of spicy iron oxide colors the vanilla hints on the shy nose. The palate has the grippy, crunchy, but ultimately velvety structure of Rugiens. Wonderfully harmonious, with great freshness countering the perfectly ripe cherry fruit. | **93**

Volnay Premier Cru Les Santenots

AK | Still enveloped by the vanilla richness of oak, and with the slightest but salutary touch of reduction, this is indeed very young. The fruit underneath, however, is of pure, ripe but tart red cherry. A spine of acidity brightens the rounded palate and marries well with the more luscious aspects of oak, which will be absorbed. | **92**



Moulin-à-Vent

MAISON ALBERT BICHOT

Rochegrès Moulin-à-Vent

ME | A prime parcel of this prestigious site (granite over hard bedrock), bought by the Bichots in 2014. A subtle shade of deep ruby. The potential of nascent aromas and already lovely finesse; great yet fine-boned structure. *Grand vin*. 2022-30. | **93**



Tasters : **AK** Anne Krebiehl MW | **NB** Neil Beckett | **MB** Michel Bettane | **ME** Mickael Edwards