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**New Releases  
from Hansel**

JULY 17, 2007

## BURGUNDY

# Privileged Ground

## *Clos des Mouches — One of Burgundy's Greatest Vineyards*

Finally, the world has realized what Burgundy *cognoscenti* have long known: for brilliant red Burgundy of intense perfume, silky texture, fine structure and pure expression of *terroir*, one need look no further than the wines of Joseph Drouhin.



*The Clos des Mouches*

Drouhin has never strayed from its commitment to making true Burgundy, with qualities that define Burgundy's magic: the uncanny ability to provide intensity, complexity and structure while miraculously maintaining elegance and finesse.

The flagship Drouhin rouge is the fabulous Beaune Clos des Mouches *premier cru*, arguably Beaune's single greatest red wine. Perfectly located mid-slope hard against the Pommard border, this was Maurice Drouhin's first purchase of land in 1919, thereby launching the domaine Drouhin.

The combination of densely planted old vines in the stony, very hard limestone soil makes for a meaty, spicy expression of Beaune with superb depth of flavor, aromatic complexity and great length. Due to its fine balance, it also ages very well, developing with ease for up to three decades.

### **The Mythic White**

Just as fine—rivalling any Côte d'Or *premier cru*—is Drouhin's beautiful Clos des Mouches blanc. Not only is this the greatest Beaune blanc, it was also the first, the inaugural vintage having been 1928.

Clos des Mouches blanc's genesis occurred in 1921, when Maurice Drouhin began planting a small amount of Chardonnay in the chalkiest, middle part of the *cru*. He intended not to make a separate white wine, but rather to co-ferment the red and white grapes,

allowing the whites to add aromatic complexity, fine acidity and higher sugar levels to the red wine.

But in 1928, the first vintage in which the Chardonnay fruit was to be included in the Clos des Mouches rouge, the two varietals didn't ripen at the same time and were thus fermented separately. The blanc proved so good that it has been bottled separately ever since. Its perfect balance, *grand cru* complexity, length and grip—and elegant aromas and flavors of apple, pear, chalk, flowers and honey—place it among the elite white *premier crus* of the Côte d'Or.

### **This Offer**

With the world's new infatuation with Drouhin, its marquee wines, including Clos des Mouches rouge and blanc, have suddenly become *very* scarce. So, it took some work but we managed to come up with a nice parcel of the highly sought-after 2005s, both of which are sure to become legendary.

We have also sourced three of the greatest Clos des Mouches rouges of the past two decades: the 2002, 1999 and 1990. And to round out this important offer, we have Drouhin's exquisite and highly sought-after 2005 Beaune-Grèves. ►

## BURGUNDY

# Clos des Mouches Rouge The Great Years

**2005 Drouhin Beaune  
Clos des Mouches Rouge  
92 Burghound 93+ Gilman  
\$74.95**



Burghound: "... seductive nose of raspberry and strawberry aromas nuanced by hints of oak, spice and earth that continues on the rich, sweet and solidly detailed medium full flavors, all wrapped in a delicious, supple and relatively forward finish ... it should age effortlessly."

John Gilman: "... deep, complex and extremely elegant ... pure and racy, with great structure again, a sappy core of fruit, and *grand cru* weight and grip on the long, suavely tannic and soil-driven finish. This will take its place in due course with ... the best made in the last thirty years. A great vintage for the Clos des Mouches."

**2002 Drouhin Beaune Clos des Mouches Rouge ..74.95**

John Gilman: "91+ rating ... lovely purity of fruit ... impressive underlying terroir ... This will be a lovely vintage for this wine. 2010-2030."

**1999 Drouhin Beaune**

**Clos des Mouches Rouge Half Bottle .....45.00**

John Gilman: "93 rating ... very deep bouquet ... plums, black cherries, smoke, violets, bitter chocolate, herbs and cedar ... pure and very soil-driven ... great length and grip on the complex, palate-staining finish. This should prove to be one of the legendary vintages for Drouhin's flagship Clos des Mouches. 2012-2040."

**1990 Drouhin Beaune Clos des Mouches Rouge 145.00**

John Gilman: "92+ rating ... quite full-bodied for a Beaune, with excellent focus and balance, a thick core of fruit, and fine length and grip on the moderately tannic finish ... It could prove to be a reference point vintage for the Clos des Mouches ... 2005-2025."

## Beaune Clos des Mouches Blanc

*Minute production  
and soaring quality  
have given Clos des  
Mouches Blanc one  
of Burgundy's most  
loyal followings.*

**2005 Drouhin Beaune Clos des Mouches Blanc  
93+ Gilman  
\$89.95**



John Gilman: "... another stellar success. The bouquet is deep and beautifully complex as it offers up a blend of apple, lemon, herbal tones, great chalkiness, wet stones, spring flowers and vanillin oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, deep and beautifully balanced, with flawless focus, a great core of fruit, and lovely cut and bounce on the long, soil-driven finish."

## Beaune-Grèves

While Clos des Mouches has long been Drouhin's top Beaune *cru*, it has a rival in the glorious 2005 vintage: the stunning Beaune-Grèves *premier cru*. Grèves is superbly located in the middle of the steep slope right in the heart of the appellation. The pebbly soil and exceptional exposure produce a complete wine of depth, complexity, structure and elegance that makes it one of Beaune's most revered *climats*.

In 2005, Drouhin's perfectionism in both vineyard and cellar have taken full advantage of the perfect ripeness and concentration of the fruit to create a rich, perfumed, and long-lived Beaune-Grèves.

**2005 Drouhin Beaune  
Grèves Rouge  
92 Burghound 92+ Gilman  
\$69.95**



Burghound: "Dense, sappy and balanced flavors that culminate in a sleekly muscled and beautifully focused finish. This is a wine that should age for 20 years without any difficulty. In a word, impressive."

John Gilman: "... destined to be one of the very best Beaunes made in the entire vintage ... a stunning bottle in the making ... the wine is full-bodied, deep and impeccably balanced, with a great core of fruit ... great structure and grip on the long, nascently complex finish."

# Schiavenza

## *A Heroic "Old Style" Barolo from a Fine Small Producer*

As we continue our hunt for treasures from Barolo's "old school," we were delighted recently to unearth an extraordinary Riserva from the great 1999 vintage. The producer is the little-known Schiavenza, owned by a branch of the famed Pira family.



*Schiavenza's vines near Serralunga.*

Prior to the release of the 1999 Barolo Riserva, Schiavenza was known only to insiders. But then came Daniel Thomases' 97 point rating, tying it with Romano Dal Forno's 2000 Amarone at the top in the *2006 Veronelli Guide*.

That Schiavenza could produce a wine of this stature makes perfect sense. Winemaker Luciano Pira is well-schooled in traditional Langhe methods, and the estate has superb sites in Serralunga and Monforte d'Alba, including old vines in Prapò.

We are pleased to offer what may well be the finest wine ever produced at Schiavenza. Quantities are very limited.

**1999 Schiavenza  
Barolo Riserva  
97 Daniel Thomases  
\$59.95**



Thomases: "The Barolos of Luciano Pira have been improving for years, but frankly I didn't expect a series so staggering like those tasted in 2005. The tasting took place in the Bottega del Vino dei Serralunga d'Alba. After those who came looking for value wines had left, the remaining tasters returned, one by one, to try the Riserva 1999, and could not control themselves. I join their club."

## *A Great Rosé Champagne at a Bargain Price Philipponnat's Fabulous Brut Réserve Rosé*

As regular readers know, we are huge fans of Philipponnat, with an appreciation built on years of drinking their iconic Clos des Goisses.

But our admiration for this small house lept a notch two years ago when we tasted what current director Charles Philipponnat had done with their Brut Réserve Rosé. Under previous administrations, this was a good but not spectacular *cuvée*. But Charles' version is stunning, with a level of complexity that few *vintage* rosés can boast.

No one should be surprised at the quality of this—or any of the other great Champagnes—Charles is making at Philipponnat today. He was schooled by his father René, a legend at Moët & Chandon in the '50s and '60s. Charles' Brut Réserve Rosé marries 55% Pinot Noir, 10% Pinot Meunier and 35% Chardonnay, including free-run Pinot Noir that gives the Champagne its beautiful color and effusive flavors. The wine is also given ample time in bottle (about 3 years), which helps to explain its complexity and seamlessness. In

his review of the current release, John Gilman notes: "the overall impression is of a fine wine that has been allowed to fully blossom in bottle before finding its way onto the market (a rather uncommon trait these days)."

A fresh shipment has just arrived .... hurry!

**Philipponnat Brut  
Réserve Rosé  
92 John Gilman**



**\$39.95 bt. \$460.00 cs.**

John Gilman in *View from the Cellar*: "The current release of their Réserve Rosé is outstanding, as it jumps from the glass in a pinot noir-dominated nose of cranberries, nectarines, cinnamon stick, sourdough and a nice underpinning of soil. On the palate the wine is fullish, deep and long, with excellent intensity of flavor, great balance, fine mid-plate depth, and outstanding cut on the long, complex and zesty finish. The mousse is frothy and refined."

# An Emerging Châteauneuf Star

## *Eddie Féraud's Outstanding 2003 & 2005*

The most famous Férauds in Châteauneuf du Pape are, of course, Paul and his daughter Laurence—of Domaine du Pégau. But at least one other member of the Féraud clan is beginning to make a name for himself: Eddie Féraud.

Eddie is Paul's nephew and the third generation to run the domaine that bears his name. There are 12 acres

from which Châteauneuf du Pape rouge is made. Like his kin, Eddie is a traditionalist, and his flagship wine is a blend that includes Mourvèdre and Syrah but is mostly Grenache, aged in barrel for 18 months.

The 2003 and 2005 are Féraud's best wines yet, with the promise of more to come. Buy them now while the prices are at bargain levels.

**2003 Eddie Féraud Châteauneuf**  
**94 Josh Raynolds**  
**\$39.95**



**2005 Eddie Féraud Châteauneuf**  
**93-96 Josh Raynolds**  
**\$39.95**

Josh Raynolds in Steve Tanzer's *IWC*:  
 "Explosively perfumed nose offers drop-dead, room-filling aromas of raspberry, strawberry, kirsch, fresh rose, violet and garrigue. Lush, oily and concentrated, with a flavor profile that is an essence of sweet red berry fruits. Finishes juicy and very long, clinging to every corner of the palate."

Josh Raynolds in Steve Tanzer's *IWC*:  
 "Striking red berry, spice and floral aromas suggest a top-notch Vosne-Romanée. Pure, silky and sweet, with deep, sharply focused raspberry and strawberry flavors, dusty tannins and a finishing mineral note. This offers superb clarity and length, and has the structure to age."

# A Meeting of Minds

## *Michel Chapoutier & Ron Laughton's Exciting Joint Venture*

When Michel Chapoutier learned about Ron Laughton's biodynamic work at Australia's Jasper Hill Vineyards, he decided to pay a visit. What he found stunned him: ancient red Cambrian soils and a cool climate that produce Syrah so deeply colored and structured they reminded him of Hermitage.

Enthralled by the region's potential, Chapoutier convinced Laughton to join with him in a joint venture called Cambrien. Vine cuttings from some of Chapoutier's oldest Hermitage vines (80-100 years old) were brought to Heathcote and planted on their own roots in a gravelly site. The vines yield a minuscule 8 hectoliters per hectare, and the fruit macerates six weeks before going into barrel for a year.

The resulting wine is a soaring example of Syrah, yet

the tiny 300-case production makes it virtually unobtainable. Consequently, we were delighted to secure a small parcel of this icon-in-the-making. Hurry.

**2004 Chapoutier & Laughton**  
**"La Pleiade" Shiraz**  
**96 Parker**  
**\$89.95**

LA PLEIADE  
 •  
 SHIRAZ  
 •  
 2004

Parker: "... there are only 300 cases of this remarkable wine ... Produced from the ancient Cambrian soils of this renowned viticultural area ... boasts a liqueur of rocks-like note interwoven with complex aromas of creme de cassis, graphite, truffles, and flowers ... As close to a New World version of Hermitage as one will ever find ... and clearly a striking example of *terroir*."

# Bookends

## Two Vintages Reveal Troplong Mondot's Greatness

*Troplong Mondot's* elevation last fall to *premier grand cru classé* affirmed what many of us knew: this old estate is making some of St. Emilion's greatest wines—a remarkable blend of richness, depth and structure, with the breed expected of a First Growth.

When Christine Valette took over in 1980, she had a vision to restore Troplong to the glory it enjoyed in the 18th century. It took her nearly a decade—and a sharp reduction in yields—to raise the quality level to what we see today.

Her first great vintage was the now-legendary 1989, a wine of epic richness. This was followed by outstanding wines in 1990, 2000 and 2003. The latter vin-



Ch. Troplong-Mondot

tage, of course, was a challenge, given the summer's historic warmth. But Christine achieved a *tour de force*: a wine with far more apparent structure than most other 2003 Bordeaux. It is a true *vin de garde* that will undoubtedly repay decades of cellaring.

We recently had the opportunity to acquire two of the jewels in this crown. The first, the 1989, was purchased directly from the chateau last fall. The second, the 2003—in rare double magnums!—was purchased this winter just after release from the chateau.

Both wines are astonishingly low priced given their stature, provenance and, in the case of the 2003, rare size. However, quantities are very limited.

**1989 Troplong Mondot, Ex-Château**  
**96 Parker**  
**\$235.00**



Parker: "... an extraordinary wine. It is slightly less evolved than the 1990, with more muscle and tannin, but equally rich and compelling ... the wine offers up aromas of licorice, prunes, black cherries, and sweet cassis fruit intermingled with high quality toasty new oak and smoke. This is a full-bodied, rich, layered, concentrated wine ... a spectacular achievement ..."

**2003 Troplong Mondot\***  
**92 Parker 92 Tanzer**  
**\$295.00 double magnum**

Parker: "... a weighty *vin de garde*, with huge density, a backward, masculine style ... white chocolate, espresso roast, plums, blackberries, and currants ... beautiful purity, stunning depth, and a long, persistent finish."  
 Tanzer: "... has a thick, exotic, generous middle that reminded me a bit of Le Tertre-Rôteboeuf ... Wonderfully rich, full-blown wine ..."

## 1996 Latour Blanche Halves A Timeless Sauternes at a Stunningly Low Price

At the time of Bordeaux's 1855 Classification, Château La Tour Blanche was ranked second only to Yquem—occupying a loftier position than even Climens and Rieussec.



Ch. La Tour Blanche in the 19th century

But despite its noble *terroir*, La Tour Blanche entered a century of neglect that lasted until 1983, when new director Jean-Pierre Jausserrand began lowering yields and improving the winemaking. Since then, La Tour Blanche had regained its place near the top of Sauternes' elite.

We've acquired a few pristine cases of Ch. La Tour Blanche's classic 1996 in very desirable half bottles ... and at an unheard-of price. Sauternes lovers, here's your chance.

**1996 Ch. La Tour Blanche**  
**★★(★★★) Michael Broadbent**  
**\$19.95 half bottle**

"Powerful yet elegant" — Michael Broadbent

# Hansel's Largesse

*2004 Cuvée Alyce Pinot Noir & 2005 Cahill Lane Chardonnay*

Over the past decade, Stephen Hansel has become one of California's elite sources of Burgundian-styled Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. And he has done it with astonishing modesty, asking some of the most reasonable prices you'll find.

Everything Steve makes is superb, including his basic Russian River Valley *cuvées*. But the real stars are the special *cuvées*, such as

*"This estate is on fire."*  
Robert Parker

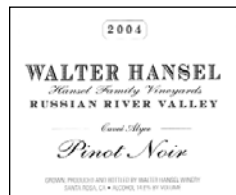


Steve Hansel

**Cahill Lane Chardonnay and Cuvée Alyce Pinot Noir.** Cahill is consistently one of Steve's most compelling Chardonnays, while Alyce represents his selection of the year's most opulent and expressive Pinot Noir barrels.

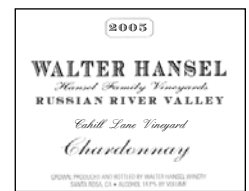
The 2005 Cahill Lane Chardonnay and 2004 Cuvée Alyce Pinot have been released, and we were honored to get an allocation of each. They are spectacular values.

**2004 Walter Hansel  
Pinot Noir "Cuvée Alyce"**  
**92 Parker**  
**\$36.95 bottle**



Parker: "A dead-ringer for a top-notch premier cru Volnay ... it offers up hints of sweet strawberries and black cherry liqueur intermixed with flowers and crushed rocks. The lovely texture, full body, purity, elegance, and crisp underlying acidity suggest this gorgeous Pinot Noir will drink well for a decade."

**2005 Walter Hansel  
Chardonnay "Cahill Lane"**  
**92 Parker**  
**\$34.95 bottle**



Parker: "... wonderful intensity ... more elegant as well as full-bodied, the 2005 Chardonnay Cahill Lane offers up hints of honeysuckle, pears, white peaches, currants, minerals, and toasty oak in the background. It will provide impressive drinking over the next 5-7 years."

## *A Masterpiece of Terroir Montepeloso's 2004 Eneo*

In 1998, Fabio Chiarelto purchased Montepeloso—the estate just above Tua Rita on a Suvereto hillside—and completely overhauled its vineyards, with the goal of producing wines that truly mirror Suvereto's soil.



Fabio Chiarelto

His 2004s show just how much Fabio has achieved so far. As Antonio Galloni wrote in the February *Wine Advocate*, "Readers won't want to miss this producer's 2004s ... These are very pure, unadulterated, textbook expressions of Suvereto *terroir*." For those who prize structure, longevity and sense of place, there can be little question that Montepeloso's wines are today Suvereto's best.

His limited-production Gabbro and Nardo get much of the press, but the wine that screams "buy me" is Eneo. This Sangiovese-based blend cropped at very low yields has more pedigree than many \$50+ Super Tuscans, yet it sells at a bargain price. It is not to be missed.

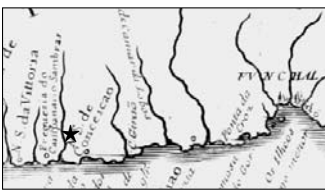
**2004 Montepeloso "Eneo"**  
**\$32.50 bottle \$380.00 case**

Antonio Galloni: "91 rating. A huge nose of scorched earth, smoke, herbs and tobacco followed by a lovely core of red cherry fruit. Muscular and powerful ... it displays excellent length, a fine finish ... 2007-2014."

# 50th Birthday Madeira

## *Campanário Yields This Year's Perfect Bottle*

Two hundred years ago, the parishes just west of Funchal on Madeira's south coast were world-famous for the beautiful Malmsey, Bual, Verdelho and Terrantez vineyards that dominated their landscapes. Today, there is little to remind us of what once was—as accelerated real estate development has all but swept away the famous old vineyards in São Martinho, Cama do Lobos and Campanário.



The star marks Campanario on this 1690 map of Madeira's south coast.

In this context, it was exciting this winter to learn about a small amount of 1957 Bual from Campanário that Barbeito acquired in cask in the 1980s, and then allowed to age in wood a further two decades. Finally, in 2005 the wine was transferred to demijohn to slow the evaporation and to prepare it for bottling in December of that year.

Any Madeira with a 1957 vintage date would have no trouble finding a home this year. But this is not just any

1957 Madeira. It is an exceptional wine of powerful bouquet, whose multi-layered palate has been made all the richer and more concentrated by spending more than 47 years in cask.

Sadly, there is little to go around, and so you'll need to act quickly.

**1957 Barbeito Bual "Campanário"**  
**\$179.95**

In addition to the exceptional Campanário provenance, extended cask aging has made a profound contribution to this wine's character. The color is brooding, while the nose is deep, pungent and penetrating. There is plenty of sweetness on the palate, with a rich, luscious texture, but the finish is long and dry, thanks to the powerful acidity. Classic in every sense ... and perfect for 50th anniversary and birthday celebrations.

# Baumard Sleepers

## *A Brilliant Savennières & a Riveting Blend of Old Vintages*

In May, we featured the monumental 2005 Loire dessert wines of Domaine Baumard. But in the process of assembling our offering, we noted two other wines in their portfolio that we simply had to buy.



Domaine Baumard

One was their amazing **Côteaux du Layon Cuvée Ancienne**, a complex but absurdly low-priced blend of 15 different vintages between 1966 and 1988. Needless to say, it is an insane bargain. The other was their

**Savennières Clos du Papillon**, which the family has made since buying this butterfly-shaped vineyard, just above the village of Savennières, in 1968. Savennières has the lowest permitted yields of any dry white wine in France, and it shows in this superb 2004. It offers great richness, complexity and structure. Delicious now, it will age for decades.

Both wines are highly recommended for those who love wine of intense individuality and sense of place.

**2004 Baumard Savennières**  
**"Clos du Papillon"**  
**\$27.95**



**Baumard Coteaux du Layon**  
**"Cuvée Ancienne"**  
**\$25.95**



*Wine Spectator*: "92 rating. Pure, with a porcelain-like texture supporting mineral, lime and quince flavors that run along a rapier of a finish. Shows great precision and clarity."

An absolute gift for lovers of aged sweet Chenin Blanc. With the components dating from 1966-1988, there's lots of crème brûlée richness, but with uncanny freshness. Made to drink on release, but can age. A steal.

# Ancient Glories

## Atauta's 2004 Single-Cru Wines are for the History Books

With dozens of parcels of very old Tempranillo vines—many pre-phyllloxera and ungrafted—Dominio de Atauta has some of the most remarkable *terroirs* not only in Spain, but the world.

Since his first vintage in 2000, winemaker Bertrand Sourdais has made the most of these viticultural treasures, producing magically transparent wines that express the minerality and perfume of the site and the very old vines, along with the personality of each vintage. And in each year, his greatest wines have been his single-cru *cuvées*—La Mala, Valdegatiles and Llanos del Almendro—each from a site of soaring individuality.

### A Monumental Year

Bertrand didn't let us down in 2004—a year that's been called the most perfect growing season of the modern Spanish era. The single-crus are simply mind-blowing. Here's the run-down on the three *cuvées*:

*"French winemaker Bertrand Sourdais is fashioning fabulous wines at this extraordinary estate."* Robert Parker



Atauta's ancient ungrafted vines.

**Llanos del Almendro** — Bertrand thinks this is the greatest of the *crus*, its old vines producing a wine that is uncompromising in its richness and complexity, synthesizing the finest elements of the other two *cuvées*.

**Valdegatiles** — Made from century-old vines grown on a sandy, windy site, Valdegatiles is often the richest of the *crus*—explosively aromatic, with an array of red and black fruits.

**La Mala** — At 150+ years, these are Atauta's oldest vines—a unique clone of Tempranillo that disappeared in the 19th century. Yields are miniscule and the wine is the most backward of the *crus*, with an immense concentration that promises future glory.

Production of these jewels is infinitesimal, with the total U.S. allocation of each ranging from 5 to 20 cases. Consequently, this is likely to be your only opportunity to acquire them. Hurry.

**2004 Llanos del Almendro**  
**96 Wine Advocate**  
**\$135.00**

Jay Miller: "... expressive nose of minerals, smoked meat, and blue and black fruits, this full-bodied wine is mouth-filling and rich. In a blind tasting it could easily pass for a great Pauillac in its combination of power and elegance."

**2004 Valdegatiles**  
**95 Wine Advocate**  
**\$120.00**

Jay Miller: "A sure bet ... the nose is indeed exceptional with notes of mineral, charcoal, grilled sausage, blueberry, and blackberry liqueur. The wine is full-bodied, with layered black fruits, abundant ripe tannins, and a long, pure finish."

**2004 La Mala**  
**93 Wine Advocate**  
**\$110.00**

Jay Miller: "... brooding nose ... toast, mineral, charcoal, smoked meat, and blackberry aromas. Full-bodied and tightly wound, with layers of fruit and abundant ripe tannins ... if things come together, my score will appear low."

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