

The Burgundy Briefing

news, views and tastings

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Tasting

White 2008

Domaine Jean-Philippe Fichet, Meursault

Nicolas Gachon is the winemaker. He has been with Jean-Philippe for 2 years. Surprisingly everything had finished MLF, but a few have a little sugar left. The cellar was warm here. I think it was warmed to 20 degrees so the MLF was all finished by March. No wine has been racked.

They started the harvest on 25th September and finished 3rd October. Nicolas says they had more tartaric and less malic. The pHs range from 3.18 to 3.30

A ripe flight of wine.

Bourgogne Aligoté

Rich, ripe citrus aroma and flavours. Juicy, fruity and vibrant. An attractive fruity Aligoté with a fresh finish. Very pleasant. Ready soon after bottling.

Hautes Côtes de Beaune

Ripe peach aroma. Soft and unctuous attack with a rounded and full middle palate. Sweet acidity and a generous fruity-driven finish. A very pleasant wine. From 2010

***Bourgogne Blanc**

Three parcels in Meursault. Some are young vines. Les Pellans, Les Millerandes and Clous Perrons. Expressive citrus aroma. Sweet acidity, brighter and lighter and more elegant with delicious fruit. Very good balance. It is a very good and elegant Bourgogne Blanc. From 2010

***Bourgogne Blanc, Vieilles Vignes**

They lost a lot to hail. Ended up with 30hl/ha. The grapes were very small. Concentrated aroma with slight spice. Rich on the attack. Delicious sweet citrus fruit; rather concentrated for a Bourgogne Blanc. Lovely balance of deep and pure fruit and zesty acidity. Seriously over performs. From 2010

Auxey-Duresses

Lifted, expressive flowery and exotic aroma. Ripe lychee fruit on the attack; ripe and perfumed palate with well woven acidity. A forward and overt Auxey-Duresses. Very appealing and crowd pleasing. The acidity on the finish keeps it fresh. Good+. From 2010/11

Monthelie

A négoce wine. They buy the must, but supervise the pressing. Ripe lemony aroma. Rich and full on the attack. Juicy, ample and curvy middle palate. slightly honeyed. Quite simple. Sweet, with a touch of orange fruit on the finish. Attractive. From 2010

Meursault

!5 year old vines from Les Chaume des Narvaux. This blend also has Les Crotots and Limozin where the vines are older.

Quite an unctuous aroma. Sweet attack with notes of crystallised lemon fruit. Opulent, rich and slightly spicy with juicy acidity. It is an appealing rounded, but nicely balanced style, with good concentration and freshness on the finish. Good+. From 2011.

Meursault, Meix Sous Le Château

Small microclimate with less wind and more sun. the vines range from 12 years old to more than 50.

Concentrated, slightly honeyed and exotic aroma. Unctuous fruit attack to an ample generously fruity palate. It is rounded, rich and full. An open and quite overt middle palate, where lovely sweet deep acidity cuts through. Very golden and appealing with a full, fruit driven finish. Good to very good. From 2010/11

Meursault, Gruyaches

Fichet is the sole vigneron who makes this separately and labels it as such. The rest of the production of this vineyard disappears into négoce wine. The vines are 71 years old.

An exotic aroma, intense and expressive. This has good vitality. It attacks the palate. Intense fruit. Firm acidity slices through the exotic, thick fruit. Plenty of viscosity and a fulsome, exotic finish. Very good+ From 2010/11

***Meursault, Les Chevalières**

Lively aromas, lifted and citrus albeit ripe. It is rather elegant and has good definition with more crisply edged ripe fruit. Lighter touch and more energetic with quite taut acidity. The balance is fresher and the minerality is firm and bright to the finish. Very good. From 2010/11

***Meursault, Tessons**

This is much more like it. Lifted bright, citrus and slightly saline. There is ripe fruit, but is ripe with some luminosity. Streamlined, pure, tight and racy. It has a good firm core of smooth stone. Very nicely woven fruit and acidity on the finish. This is reasonably restrained. Silky and energetic and very long for a village wine. Particularly good. From 2011

***Meursault, Genevrières**

In the 2007, which was the first year for this appellation, Fichet had 2 pièces, but this year they have 5. It comes from just one grower who works here with Fichet and the fruit is bought in grapes.

Quite perfumed. The palate is quite floral, but however is rather tight. Good acidity, balance and tension. It has a fresh and uplifted long finish, which is bright and tight at the end. A good combination of exotic fruit with a more disciplined structure. Fine+. From 2011/12

Puligny-Montrachet, Referets

Rich, ripe and expansive aroma. Satin rich attack to a generous, broad middle palate. Full and generous on the finish. Very well balanced with sweet, deep acidity. A rich Referets. Particularly good to fine. From 2011/12

Stockists

UK: Genesis Wines Ltd; Goedhuis & Co.; Fields, Morris and Verdin/Berry Brothers; TheVine Trail Ltd

USA: The Rare Wine Company, Sonoma