

Wine Talk: February 2013

The newsletter of Living Wines: Edition 33

This month we have an abbreviated newsletter as we have not had time to write any of our normal articles for you, a hazard of too much travel. So there is just the five special offers that include a number of wines from new producers.

We have just returned from two amazing experiences! The first was a short trip to France to attend the Dive Bouteille event in Brézé and many of the other events held in nearby Angers – one of our favourite towns in France, mainly because of its wine bar Le Cercle Rouge. All were trade shows featuring wines from producers across France and beyond who practice organic and biodynamic viticulture and minimal intervention in the winery. We had a great time, met up with lots of our current producers and we managed to find several new producers, including a cider maker, to work with. More about these producers in the next newsletter.

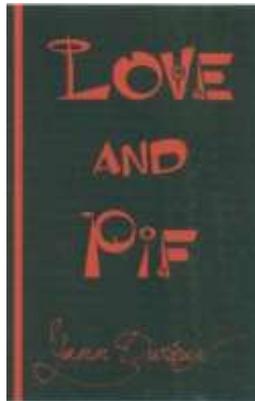
Three days after we returned we flew to Sydney to attend the inaugural Rootstock wine fair in Sydney. What a blast!!! It sold out completely and we and other exhibitors were swamped with consumers and trade representatives eager to sample the wines we had on offer. Many exhibitors, including us, underestimated the number of attendees, so our pours became smaller and smaller as the day went on. Still, such was the sense of joy and enthusiasm surrounding the event that people seemed to tolerate it – so thank you for your patience if you were one of them. We will write more about this incredible event in the next newsletter.

This month we are offering five packs. We have a New Arrivals pack which includes two wines with no added sulphur, a muscat from Domaine Gimios in the Languedoc, and an Aligoté from Yann Durieux. Following the amazing reaction at Rootstock to Philippe Bornard's wines we have put together a pack with his new arrivals. We also have two packs of six Burgundies (one of white and one of red), with each wine expressing its own unique characteristics based on the local terroir. And we have a slightly different Summer Sparkling wine 6 pack.

Remember that the special packs attract a 15% discount instead of a 10% discount, so if you order a special pack you really are getting a special deal!

There is a link to our order form for these packs and any other wines at the end of this newsletter. But there's no need to use the order form. Just send us an email listing the wines and/or packs you would like to order if that suits you better. We'll confirm the price by return email before processing your order.

Pack 1: New arrivals 6 pack



This six pack comprises only wines that have arrived in the past month or so. They are all exciting wines that we have not had much of a chance to show around Australia with the exception of a brief showing in Adelaide recently.

Yann Durieux Bourgogne Aligoté Love and Pif 2011 – The Love and Pif is a gorgeous example of Aligoté from the emerging terroir of the Hauts Cotes de Nuits. Every time we try this wine we are reminded of what a great grape variety it is and what a great winemaker Yann is.

Le Petit Gimios Muscat Sec des Roumanis 2011 – And now for something completely different! A white wine from the Languedoc that has absolutely no additives from a winemaker who has been making sulphur free wines for over a decade. A beautiful white wine that can be drunk with anything.

Michel Gahier Arbois Ploussard 2011 – Even though he is better known for his stunning Trousseau wines Michel is also making a name for himself with Ploussard, the other native red grape variety of the Jura. This is a light, pretty wine that will go with almost any food, especially grilled quail.

Bornard Côtes du Jura Chardonnay Les Gaudrettes 2010 – This Chardonnay is a lovely example of a Jura Chardonnay. It's lightly oxidative with nutty overtones and a good introduction to the region.

Derain Mercurey La Plante Chassey 2011 – The Mercury appellation in Burgundy is often overlooked, but some very good wines are produced here, especially this one from Dominique Derain. It is 100% Pinot Noir.

Les Capriades Piège à Filles Rosé – This wine is one of the great Pétillant Naturels of the Loire Valley. Made from Gamay and Cot it is a fine example of a sparkling wine that has been made for any-time-of-the-day drinking – yes, even at breakfast! It has finished fermentation in the bottle so expect some deposits.

The RRP for this selection of 6 bottles is \$270 but the pack price is **\$229.50 including freight.**

Pack 2: Bornard Jura 6 pack



The 'fox' has become one of the most widely recognised wine labels in the natural wine movement. Philippe Bornard produces fabulous white, red and yellow wines in the village of Pupillin in the heart of the Jura. This six pack has been designed to allow you to sample a range of his wine styles (he produces 18 different wines)!

Bornard Côtes du Jura Chardonnay Les Gaudrettes 2010 – This Chardonnay is a lovely example of a Jura Chardonnay. It's lightly oxidative with nutty overtones and a good introduction to the region.

Philippe Bornard Arbois Pupillin Ploussard Point Barre 2011 (2 bottles) – We decided to put in two bottles of the lovely Point Barre. The Point Barre is made from the Ploussard (aka Poulsard) grape and is a light, delicate almost translucent red wine that gives off aromas of red currants, citrus and saddle leather with a touch of cinnamon.

Philippe Bornard Arbois Pupillin Melon Le Rouge Queue 2009 – There are some oxidative notes in this wine which makes it very appealing to those of us who crave this experience. It is a big, fruity wine but with a razor-sharp streak of acidity offsetting the sweetness of the fruit. As is the case with many of the Bornard wines, the finish is incredibly long.

Philippe Bornard Côtes du Jura Savagnin Ouillé Les Chassagnes 2008 – This lovely wine is made from 100% Savagnin which is a white grape that is native to the Jura region. It is named after the lieu-dit where the Savagnin is grown. As with many wines from the Jura this wine has been made with a slight oxidative edge which gives it a beautiful, nutty, savoury, umami quality that makes for compelling drinking. However, the wine is topped up (Ouillé) so the characteristics are more muted than in his Les Marnes cuvée or his Vin Jaune.

Philippe Bornard Crémant du Jura NV – The Bornard Crémant is a sparkling wine made from 100% Chardonnay. It is full of stone-fruit aromas and has an appealing minerality and savouriness on the palate. The baked apple aromas and dry finish of this delicious and affordable alternative to Champagne make it a perfect aperitif.

The RRP for this selection of 6 bottles is \$273 but the pack price is **\$232.05 including freight.**

Pack 3: Exploring Burgundy reds 6 pack



This six pack has been put together to give you an insight into the varied styles of Pinot Noir that are available from this great wine producing region. Our preference is for light, elegant wines that express where they come from rather over-extracted heavier styles. All of these are entry level wines at an exceptionally reasonable price for wines from this region.

Fanny Sabre Bourgogne Rouge 2011– A lovely wine from talented winemaker Fanny Sabre who has a number of vineyards around Beaune including some in Pommard and Volnay. This is an elegant, juicy Pinot with lovely red fruit flavours.

Sextant – Julien Altaber Bourgogne Rouge 2011 – Julien is one of our newest suppliers. For a number of years he has worked for Dominique Derain but now has some of his own vineyards and also some friends who supply him with biodynamic grapes. His wines are ones to watch!

Derain Bourgogne Les Riaux 2011– A lovely expression of Pinot Noir sourced from vines around the village of Saint Aubin just south of Beaune.

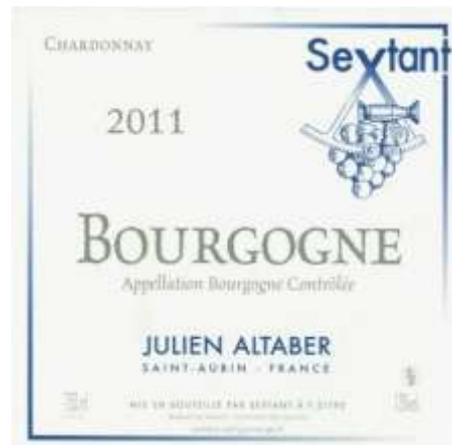
Terres Dorées Bourgogne 2011– Jean-Paul Brun is better known for his Beaujolais wines, but he also makes a very pretty Pinot Noir which we just love. Very juicy.

Domaine de la Cadette Bourgogne l'Ermitage 2011 – Jean Montanet is a fine winemaker, consistently turning out white and red Burgundies of exceptional quality. This wine is quite rare because it has between 15% and 20% of César, a grape introduced by the Romans.

Domaine Montanet Thoden Bourgogne Garance 2011 – Another wine made by the Montanets but this time it is 100% Pinot. A delicious example of a Pinot from the northern part of Burgundy.

The RRP for this selection of 6 bottles is \$226 but the pack price is **\$192.10 including freight.**

Pack 4: Exploring Burgundy whites 6 Pack



This six pack has been put together to give you an insight into the varied styles of Chardonnay that are available from this great wine producing region. Of course Burgundy whites don't have to be made from Chardonnay as Aligoté is a grape that produces great Burgundy wines as are Pinot Blanc and Melon de Bourgogne. But these are all 100% Chardonnay.

Fanny Sabre Bourgogne Blanc 2011– A lovely wine from Fanny Sabre who has a number of vineyards around Beaune including some in Savigny-les-Beaune and in the Beaune vineyard of Chouacheux. This is an elegant, crisp Chardonnay with stone fruit aromas and flavours.

Sextant – Julien Altaber Bourgogne Blanc 2011 – Julien is one of our newest suppliers and this is one of our most recent arrivals. Julien seems to have a real touch with Chardonnay producing elegant wines that belie their price. It's quite aromatic and powerful for a Bourgogne.

Derain Bourgogne La Combe Blanc 2011– A lovely expression of Chardonnay sourced from vines from the La Combe lieu dit near Saint Aubin just south of Beaune.

Fanny Sabre Beaune Blanc 2010–This Fanny Sabre chardonnay from the Beaune appellation shows lovely balance between fruit and acidity. Another excellent example of the 2010 vintage.

Domaine de la Cadette Bourgogne Vézelay Le Chatelaine 2011 – Jean Montanet is a fine winemaker who has two vineyards on the same limestone that this region shares with Chablis. Therefore this wine is a flinty, minerally Chardonnay of some complexity.

Domaine Montanet Thoden Bourgogne Galerne 2011 – Another wine made by the Monanets from vineyards owned by Catherine Montanet and her brother. A delicious example of a Chardonnay from the northern part of Burgundy.

The RRP for this selection of 6 bottles is \$249 but the pack price is \$211.65 including freight.

Pack 5: Summer sparkling wines 6 pack



This 6 pack is for the summer sparkling wines that we have repeated this month due to its popularity last month.

Les Capriades Vin de France Rosé Pige à Filles 2011 – The Rosé Pige à Filles in the 750ml bottles is a pale pink Petillant Naturel which is a blend of organic Gamay (approx 90%) and Cabernet Franc grapes. The wine is made without any dosage (the addition of sugar) and also without the addition of any sulphur. Crown seal.

Domaine Mosse Vin de France Moussamousettes – We love this wine. It is pale, light, delicious, limpid, very slightly sweet and the perfect aperitif for a spring or summer lunch or evening aperitif. This year it is made mainly from Grolleau Gris with a little Cabernet Franc that have been co-fermented. It was bottled at 35g residual sugar and fermentation continued in the bottle until the sugar levels fell to almost dry. Crown seal.

Domaine du Moulin Vin de Table Bulle Rosé – Also with a crown seal, these are ideal summer quaffing wines. This one is a blend of 50% Pinot Noir and 50% Pineau d'Aunis.

Domaine Belluard Vin de Savoie Ayse Brut 2008 – A lovely sparkling wine made from 100% Gringet, a traditional grape of the Savoie region. It spent two years on lees before it was disgorged. It displays finesse and minerality. The alcohol level is 12%.

Philippe Bornard Crémant du Jura NV – The Bornard Crémant is a sparkling wine made from 100% Chardonnay. It is full of stone-fruit aromas and has an appealing minerality and savouriness on the palate. The baked apple aromas and dry finish of this delicious and affordable alternative to Champagne make it a perfect aperitif.

Michael Gahier Crémant du Jura NV – This sparkling wine is made in the Champagne style, hence qualifying for the appellation of Crémant du Jura. The wine is made from 100% Chardonnay, a grape that Michel has a particular affinity for. This wine has fine bubbles, some yeast, a lively fruit flavour and a good, long finish.

The RRP for this selection of 6 bottles is \$203 but the pack price is a very reasonable \$172.55 including freight.

Living Wines Order Form

You can simply send us an email to order wines, but if you would like to use the form to check prices or availability, click on the link below.

http://www.livingwines.com.au/Catalogue/Order_Form_Current_2013.pdf