

## VINOUS (IWC) : Stephen Tanzer (USA, January 2017)

Acquit

# Stephen Tanzer's

## INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR

### ***DOMAINE BITOUZET- PRIEUR :***

#### **VOLNAY 2015 : 88-90**

(this and the following wines were tasted from tanks): Medium red. High-pitched scents and flavors of red cherry, raspberry, licorice and mint. Nicely juicy, intense village wine with lovely clarity and sweetness and no hardness.

#### **VOLNAY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES AUSSY 2015 : 90-92**

Bright medium red. A bit youthfully inexpressive on the nose, like the Beaune Cent-Vignes, offering scents of black cherry, licorice and menthol. Then sweeter than the Cent-Vignes in the mouth, with its dark cherry fruit nicely framed by integrated acidity. This silky, vinous wine conveys an attractive light touch and very good lift and salty persistence. Bitouzet believes that this wine will make an ideal aperitif--"for raising morale," as he put it.

#### **VOLNAY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU LES PITURES 2015 : 90-92**

(20% vendange entier): Medium bright red. A note of reduction to the redcurrant and smoky mineral aromas. At once thick and vinous, with a dense grain, but quite unforthcoming today. Not at all a sweet style, this premier cru finishes with strong tannic clout and a slightly dry medicinal quality. This rather masculine wine from the north side of the appellation is more massive but less liquid than the foregoing Volnay samples and will take longer to open.

#### **VOLNAY 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CLOS DES CHENES 2015 : 92-94**

(11% vendange entier; from three ages of vines, the oldest of them planted in 1976): Good dark red. Pure, high-pitched, slightly medicinal scents of raspberry, blackberry, licorice and spices, plus hints of herbs and pepper. A very rich, sappy wine with a restrained sweetness and captivating saline minerality to its dark raspberry and boysenberry fruit flavors. Finishes with firm but well-integrated tannins and subtle power and length. This beauty is a bit higher in pH and lower in acidity than the Caillerets, and will probably give pleasure earlier.