

Review by Neal Martin *eRobertParker.com* # , #224 (Apr 2016)

Batard Montrachet Grand Cru

Rating: 92

Grand Cru, which was matured entirely in new wood, was more closed than the premier crus when I tasted the wine at the domaine, obviously needing several years in bottle. The palate is very elegant with hints of brioche and limestone interwoven through the malic, apply notes. The acidity is very well judged, but at the moment I am still seeking that "knockout blow" on the finish. This is a fine Bâtard for sure, though I am more tempted by the best premier crus from Jouard at the moment. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagne based domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Champs Gain Vieilles Vignes

Rating: 92

offers a sense of airiness on the nose, a little "distant" at first, but gaining confidence with aeration and delivering attractive wet limestone and green apple scents. I suspect another year or two in bottle will enhance the aromatics. The palate is well balanced with a suggestion of pleasant reduction on the entry. Moderate weight, quite strict for a ChampGain, but with commendable depth on the walnut and smoketinged finish. This is another fine 2014 from Jouard. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagne based domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru la Maltroie

Rating: 90

is the most reserved of Jouard's premier crus at the moment. Apple blossom here, a touch of freshly sliced pear and white flowers reluctantly unfurling with time in the glass. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry, perhaps not quite as complex as the ChampGain at the moment, more linear and correct in style, but with ample freshness and vitality on the finish. Give this another year in bottle. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagne based domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru les Chaumées Clos de la Truffière

Rating: 94

has a very precise, mineral driven bouquet that is pure class. A more intellectual, cerebral nose from Jouard, this is one where you have to be patient and pick out the aromas: limestone, chalk, Granny Smith apples and later, peach skin and nectarine. The palate is taut and tensile right from the start: there is wonderful acidity, real complexity and tension with an intensity on the finish worthy of a grand cru. This is simply and outstanding Chassagne Montrachet from Jouard and it has the substance to age long term. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagne based domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru les Chenevottes

Rating: 92

has a fragrant bouquet with white flowers tincturing the fresh citrus fruit. There is plenty of tension coiled up in this Chenevottes though like the 2014 ChampGain, one can see that it will benefit from time in bottle. The palate is fresh and crisp on the entry with green apple, lemon zest, minerals and hazelnut, the acidity pronounced thereby lending verve and tension from start to finish, a dab of sour lemon on the aftertaste. This is an excellent ChassagneMontrachet from Jouard. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagnebased domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet 1er Cru Morgeot les Fairendes

Rating: 90+

is a little straightlaced following on from the Chenevottes and perhaps does not quite deliver the same tension and mineralité. The palate is well balanced with good weight in the mouth, leaning slightly towards the nuttiness of a Meursault, and displaying convincing vigour if not lifeaffirming complexity on the "correct" finish. This is a more difficult to Chassagne to understand at the moment and deserves 34 years in bottle. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagnebased domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.

Chassagne Montrachet Vieilles Vignes

Rating: 90

has a delightful bouquet of fresh lime mixed with brioche and light honeyed tones, all nicely defined and quite generous. The palate is well balanced with a crisp line of acidity. I like the nervosité displayed by this village cru, the 45to 50yearold vines showing their mettle towards the pear and Granny Smithtinged finish. This comes recommended. Having tracked Domaine Jouard's for the last three of four vintages, I regretted not being able to visit this Chassagnebased domaine late last year. With that being said, the wait was worthwhile, because this was an exemplary set of 2014s that exploited a vintage that favored the white over the reds and also, this particular Côte de Beaune appellation over others. I commented to Vincent Jouard that this was perhaps the best set of wines that I had tasted from his cellar, replete with nervosité, complexity and vivacity. Jouard is a name that is still a little under the radar at the moment and so this is an opportune moment to grab some of these fabulous wines.