



Allen Meadows'

BURGHOUND.COM

The ultimate Burgundy reference

Issue 65

January 2017

Domaine Christian Clerget (Vougeot)

2015 Bourgogne red (87-89)

2015 Chambolle-Musigny red (88-91)

2015 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Charmes" 1er red (90-93)

2015 Echézeaux Grand Cru red (92-94)

2015 Morey St. Denis red (88-91)

2015 Vosne-Romanée "Les Violettes" red (89-91)

2015 Vougeot "Les Petits Vougeots" 1er red (90-92)

Christian Clerget described 2015 as a "relatively simple vintage save perhaps for some early season oidium that caused us some grief since we are in the process of converting our viticulture to organic farming. While it's hard to know exactly, I would estimate that it cost us on the order of 10 to 15% of the potential volume. Otherwise the season was straightforward as it was entirely hot and dry so there was basically no further disease pressure. We chose to begin picking on the 5th of September and continued through to the 9th. The fruit was spotless and uniformly ripe so it was possible to harvest with dispatch. Yields were good at between 30 and 35 hl/ha and potential alcohols ranged between 12.6 to 13.5% and I chaptalized only one wine. As to the wines, they're clearly ripe but what is interesting is how fresh they are. If you didn't know what you were tasting, you wouldn't necessarily think that the 2015s were the product of a very hot and dry summer. They should age extremely well and overall, I am very happy with the quality." I have to agree with Clerget as several of the wines, and in particular the Bourgogne, the Violettes and the Charmes, are among the best examples that I have seen from the domaine. (P Comms International, www.pcommswines.com, Ashville, NC, Vin de Garde, OR and Vintage Imports, CO; McKinley Vintners, www.mckinleyvintners.co.uk, UK).

2015 Bourgogne: A ripe and wonderfully fresh nose features notes of liqueur-like black cherry and a lovely range of spice nuances. There is both good richness and vibrancy to the solidly concentrated and attractively textured flavors that display only a trace of backend rusticity on the lingering finale. This is first-rate for what it is and highly recommended. (87-89)/2019+

2015 Morey St. Denis: An all but invisible touch of wood sets off notably earth red berry fruit scents that lead to tighter and more precise medium weight flavors that terminate in a dusty and saline finish where the only nit is a hint of warmth. This should be approachable young but reward 6 to 8 years of cellaring too. (88-91)/2021+

2015 Chambolle-Musigny: (from 30+ year old vines, most of which are situated by Charmes). Mild reduction is enough to push the underlying fruit to the background at present. There is fine intensity to the precise, refined and lacy flavors that exude a fine bead of minerality on the punchy and lingering finish. This too should drink well early if desired. (88-91)/2020+

2015 Vosne-Romanée "Les Violettes": (from .50 ha parcel planted in 1946; Les Violettes abuts Clos de Vougeot). As the name would suggest there are indeed nuances of violets on the perfumed nose of red and dark currants that is liberally laced with various spice elements. The sleek, focused and vibrant middle weight flavors possess excellent depth and persistence for a *villages* level wine; moreover the natural class of Vosne is evident and this is worth checking out. (89-91)/2021+

2015 Vougeot "Les Petits Vougeots": As is often the case *chez* Clerget, this is the most elegant wine in the range with its ripe but cool, fresh and airy array of various red berries and in particular cherry and pomegranate that are cut with floral nuances. There is a highly refined mouth feel to the lilting medium-bodied flavors that possess a lovely sense of underlying tension that carries over to the refreshing and inviting finish. Once again this should be approachable young. (90-92)/2021+

2015 Chambolle-Musigny "Les Charmes": (from 4 parcels of 30+ year old vines aggregating 1 ha). A slightly riper yet still fresh nose offers up notes of cassis, black raspberry, lavender and a hint of sandalwood. There is a caressing mouth feel to the extract-rich medium-bodied flavors that coat the palate on the more obviously structured finale. This balanced effort is also a wine of refinement and is one that should drink well young but reward up to a decade of bottle age. (90-93)/2023+ **Burghound.com January, 2017 6 1**