



TASTING NOTES

HOSPICES DE BEAUNE 2021

by Jasper Morris, MW

There is a saying among French vigneronns that "June makes the quantity but September makes the quality". This year it was April that decided the quantity (low) and the return to a classical vintage date of the second half of September that has defined the quality (high).

There are 349 barrels and five half barrels on offer this year after the effects of the frost damage in April. The reduction is particularly severe for the white wines (56 barrels and 3 half barrels) compared to last year (156 barrels). The figures are less severe for the red wines, with 293 barrels and two half barrels, compared to 474 barrels last year.

Fortunately, Ludivine Griveau has made some beautiful wines despite the shortage of the crop and she has managed to produce all of the 50 different cuvées are being offered once again, 33 red and 17 white. This year the provision of barrels has been extended to include several more coopers. These tasting notes were compiled in early November.

Sotheby's EST. 1744 Wine

THE WHITE WINES

"The white wines are matured in barrels from the Tonnellerie Damy. All wines are being matured in new 228 litre barrels this year, as is the custom, and the three half barrels (feuilletes) will also be new. The first section of notes covers the 'singular' cuvées where the Hospices has only one wine in each different appellation."

Pouilly-Fuissé, Cuvée Françoise Poisard (17 barrels)

Lots 152 to 168. Estimate: €6,000-12,000

There are 17 barrels instead of 25 last year which in the context of the vintage is a very good result. The Pouilly-Fuissé was the first cuvée to be harvested in 2021. Very perfumed this year, the bouquet is dominated by fresh pears with some citrus and grapefruit notes a little orange blossom. This is medium-bodied, not too powerful yet with pleasing length, indeed a particularly long finish.

St-Romain, Cuvée Joseph Menault (1.5 barrels)

Lots 248 to 249. Estimate: €6,000 -10,000 per barrel

A lively apple fruit punctuates the bouquet. Greater density emerges behind on the palate, with a more savoury character, a sign of the immense concentration from a yield which is just one sixth of last year. Though the alcoholic degree is lower this year, this wine has a natural intensity of its own. Cool touch at the moment, not yet properly expressing itself.

Chablis 1er Cru Côte de Léchet, Cuvée Jean-Marc Brocard (1 barrel)

Lot 247. Estimate : €10,000-15,000

Sniffing this wine from the single barrel of 2021 Chablis makes one wish that there were much more of it. The bouquet offers the classical marine notes of pure Chablis, supported by a richer fruit on the palate with some fresh pear notes. The acidity is perfectly in balance, highlighting the graceful finish which suggests that this wine will be a delight to drink from three years after bottling. Did a severe tri, and could have picked earlier.

Beaune 1er Cru Les Montrevenots, Cuvée Suzanne & Raymond (2 barrels)

Lots 245 & 246. Estimate: €9,000-14,000

Sadly the Montrevenots vineyard which lends itself so well to the production of fine quality chardonnay caught a cold this year, permitting only two barrels to be produced (14 last year). There is a light toasty reduction on the nose, giving the wine a fine feeling of tension. A broad based white fruit with an edge of fresh walnuts permeated the palate, and the fresh citrus notes allied to this upper slope wine completes the finish.

Puligny-Montrachet, Cuvée Bernard Clerc (1 barrel)

Lot 146. Estimate: 18,000-24,000

For the moment this plot only produces a single barrel each year for the Hospices de Beaune. The bouquet offers an array of spring flowers, exceptionally perfumed this year, and the same qualities shine through on the palate, where there is an ample body of fruit, supported by some mineral acidity. It is a particularly harmonious Puligny in 2021.

THE WHITE WINES - MEURSAULT

“Meursault remains the core of the Hospices de Beaune vineyard holdings with seven cuvées to chose from, including two each from the fabulous Charmes and Genevrières 1er cru vineyards. The chardonnay vineyards in this sector start the growing season early and so were more susceptible to the April frosts, hence the sadly reduced volumes.”

MEURSAULT

Meursault, Cuvée Loppin (4 barrels)

Lots 258 to 261. Estimate €10,000-15,000

Pure clear fruit emerges on the nose along with the characteristic rounded character of fine Meursault. Ripe citrus notes appear on the palate, with medium plus length. The fruit is less powerful than the previous vintage but rather more stylish. Some clean-cut fresh pears infuse the back of the palate.

Meursault Cuvée Goureau (2 barrels)

Lots 180 to 181. Estimate: €12,000-18,000

The bouquet of Cuvée Goureau is a little more lifted than Loppin, with fresh citrus notes appearing. This has a steely core with refreshing acidity to back upon the concentrated white fruit suggesting apples picked at optimum ripeness. The aftertaste here is notably long, with the fruit continuing to build in very satisfactory fashion.

Meursault 1er Cru Porusots, Cuvée Jéhan Humblot (3 barrels)

Lots 250 to 252. Estimate: €16,000-22,000

The crop is one third of 2020 but the resulting wine is magical. There is a driven intensity accompanied by a freshness of flavour. The fruit profile includes fresh greengage, and the finish has a grip which is typical of the always well structured Porusots vineyard. The length of the finish is exemplary. An outstanding Meursault.

Meursault 1er Cru Charmes, Cuvée Albert Grivault (3 barrels)

Lots 149 to 151. Estimate: €20,000-30,000

Less fortunate in volume, but equally fine in quality, Cuvée AG will deliver a Meursault Charmes suited for medium to long-term keeping. There is an agreeable ripeness to the fruit which augurs well, some ripe grapefruit up front and then some orange blossom notes towards the finish. Attractive and persistent.

Meursault 1er Cru Genevrières, Cuvée Baudot (5 barrels)

Lot 253 to 257. Estimate €16,000-22,000

A pale and elegant lemon colour. The bouquet exhibits some of the fine herbal elements which are typical of Genevrières. This starts with finesse and then grows in intensity, lemon scented fruit infusing the finish, finely balanced acidity and notable persistence.

Meursault 1er Cru Genevrières, Cuvée Philippe Le Bon (4 barrels)

Lot 142 to 145. Estimate: €18,000 -28,000

Philippe Le Bon offers a more powerful bouquet than Cuvée Baudot, with ripe grapefruit notes currently dominating the bouquet. The energy shows through as well on the palate, where fruit, oak and acidity are all successfully harnessed to produce a Meursault of substance.

Meursault 1er Cru Charmes, Cuvée de Bahèzre de Lanlay (6 barrels)

Lot 174 to 170. Estimate: €20,000-30,000

This part of Les Charmes came through the frost with less damage, so the volume is down by only one third. The bouquet demonstrates immediately that this cuvée offers a wine of considerable weight and status, Charmes being characteristically more muscular than Genevrières. Yet there is finesse as well, as the pure white apple and fresh pear fruit shows on the palate.

THE WHITE WINES - GRANDS CRUS

"There are four whites offered from the Corton family and one fabulous cuvée of Bâtard-Montrachet. In common with the other 2021 white wines offered by the Hospices, all the grand cru whites are offering enthralling aromatic qualities as well as a sense of concentration due to the restricted yields."

THE GRAND CRUS

Corton Blanc, Grand Cru, Cuvée Docteur Peste (1 barrel)

Lot 182. Estimate: €20,000-28,000

Pale in colour, the Corton Docteur Peste packs a punch on the nose which continues all the way through to the lime infused finish. In between there is a weight of fruit which merits grand cru status and shows the potential for the chardonnay grape in this corner of the Clos des Fièvres vineyard.

Corton-Vergennes, Grand Cru, Cuvée Paul Chanson (1.5 barrels)

Lot 172 to 173. Estimate: €26,000-35,000

The rocky outcrop where these vines are situated in the Vergennes vineyard are particularly suited to chardonnay rather than pinot noir. The brilliantly racy nose, with an intensity of crunchy apple and citrus infused fruit is astonishing. Try to purchase the barrel of this wine if you possibly can, or if that does not work out there is a rare half barrel instead. Brilliant intensity and persistence. Too good!

Corton-Charlemagne, Grand Cru, Cuvée Le Roi Soleil (1 barrel)

Lot 183. Estimate: €40,000-55,000

Pale colour. The predominant aspect of the bouquet is fresh pears a style of fruit often found in this cuvee. The barrel has added a pleasing toasty note as well, and the volume of fruit seems to expand towards the back of the palate.

Bâtard-Montrachet, Grand Cru, Cuvée Dames de Flandres (2 barrels)

Lots 169 to 171. Estimate: €110,000 - 140,000

Philippe Le Bon offers a more powerful bouquet than Cuvée Baudot, with ripe grapefruit notes currently dominating the bouquet. The energy shows through. The Bâtard-Montrachet came through the frost a little more successfully than many other white wine vineyards. Every year, this is the most backward wine in the line-up, showing less in fragrance and fruit detail at this early stage, but delivering the structure and intensity of a major grand cru vineyard. Buyers will not regret their decision in bidding for this wine which has a thread of mineral intensity running through the volume of fruit. Impressively powerful while retaining elegance. as well on the palate, where fruit, oak and acidity are all successfully harnessed to produce a Meursault of substance.

Corton-Charlemagne, Grand Cru, Cuvée François de Salins (2 barrels)

Lots 147 to 148. Estimate: €45,000 -70,000

The first thing to note about the exceptional Cuvée François de Salins is the feeling of mineral tension on the nose. Classical Corton-Charlemagne, especially from the heart of the vineyard, Le Charlemagne, gives the impression of licking stones on the floor of a mountain stream – and this beautiful 2021 edition does just that. The aftertaste is superbly persistent as well. Once again François de Salins has come up trumps.

THE RED WINES

“These cuvées offer both affordability and accessibility: any of them will start to be ready to drink after about 5 years in bottle, yet will age safely for as long again. All wines are currently being matured in new barrels, from a wider range of cuvées this year: Billon, Cadus and François Frères.”

AUXEY-DURESSES – MONTHELIE- PERNAND – SANTENAY - SAVIGNY

Pernand-Vergelesses, 1er Cru Les Vergelesses, Cuvée Rameau Lamarosse (5 barrels)

Lots 345 to 349. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

Every year, this wine has an astonishingly deep colour, and the 2021 holds true to form. There is a pleasing touch of barrel toast supporting the fruit which has a blueberry note alongside the more classical raspberry. It is quite fine-boned, the structure being formed more by the fruit/acid balance than tannins, as is normal in Pernand-Vergelesses.

Monthelie Les Duresses, Cuvée Lebelin (9 barrels)

Lots 273 to 281. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

The last to be picked – also, because this is a cooler site, the vines were less advanced at the time of the frost and so suffered less, producing as much wine as the previous year. There is a pleasing crimson colour of medium depth, some smoky notes from the barrel, which do not follow through on the palate which displays fresh cherry and raspberry fruit. Note the fine and elegant finish.

Santenay, Cuvée Christine Friedberg (2 barrels)

Lots 223 to 224. Estimate: €7,000-10,000

There was a little more rain in Santenay this year than farther north, so the wine has been vinified to preserve the fruit rather than to extract more than is readily available. Fine youthful crimson in colour, while the bouquet offers a strawberry character to the nose, infused with some hints of orange rind. The fruit is backed by a mix of tannins and acidity. A middleweight Santenay to drink at 4 to 6 years old.

Savigny-lès-Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Arthur Girard (10 barrels)

Lots 116 to 125. Estimate €7,000-12,000

Medium deep purple in colour, the nose is quite reticent but the fruit really fills out the palate, with medium tannins behind. The style goes back to a purer fresher style of red fruit than in the recent hotter vintages. There is a fine point of clean acidity to finish.

Savigny-lès-Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Fouquerand (10 barrels)

Lots 335 to 344. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

A fresh ruby colour, with light red berry fruit appearing on the nose. The palate delivers more substance in the form of fresh raspberry fruit, reasonably light in structure, this will make an excellent bottle in just five years.

Savigny-lès-Beaune, 1er Cru Les Vergelesses, Cuvée Forneret (13 barrels)

Lots 282 to 294. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

A fine bright crimson, a little toast mixed in with complex red berry fruits. The acidity is a little more pronounced here, medium bodied plus, quite tightly knit in style. A Savigny which will need a few years to declare itself.

Auxey Duresses, 1er Cru Les Duresses, Cuvée Boillot (2 barrels)

Lots 328 to 329. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

Ludivine Griveau has vinified this very small cuvée this year to include some of the stems, which shows in the structure of this wine. A sound clear crimson colour. The fruit is much more expressive on the palate than it currently is on the nose, a racy vigorous fresh strawberry and raspberry fruit, with a cleansing acidity that is very well integrated. This wine has the backbone to age well.

THE RED WINES - BEAUNE 1ER CRU

"The Hospices de Beaune is well provided in wines from Beaune itself: 10 different 1er cru cuvées delivering all the nuances of style that Beaune can offer. The tasting notes below will indicate the varying styles from one cuvée to another. Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron and Cuvée Rousseau Deslandes might suit those seeking a wine which will be accessible earlier, Cuvée Floquet and Cuvée Guigone de Salins will be attractive early but will keep very well, while Cuvée Nicolas Rolin is certainly built for the long term. The Beaune cuvées are all lodged in François Frères barrels."

BEAUNE 1er CRU

Beaune, 1er Cru Les Montrevenots, Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron (6 barrels)

Lots 350 to 255. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

A fresh pure crimson, the Beaune Montrevenots strikes an elegant pose from first glance, and first sniff. There are fine lifted raspberry and redcurrant notes to be enjoyed in the bouquet and following through on the graceful fine-boned palate. Long and charming, for the medium term.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Hugues & Louis Bétault (5 barrels)

Lots 330 to 334. Estimate: €6,000-10,000

Mid purple, the nose is a little hidden behind the barrel at this moment. There is more volume of fruit here, some darker raspberry notes, all kept fresh by the acidity, which provides the structural backbone more than tannins, with fair length. Coming late in the sale, this cuvée usually offers excellent value.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Brunet (8 barrels)

Lots 308 to 315. Estimate: €7,000-10,000

Fine mid crimson purple. There are some red plums in the fruit mix, an ample generosity all the way through to the finish, plenty of charm but also very good backbone, and persistence. The individual components are still in the process of knitting together. Cuvée Brunet will have good ageing potential.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Dames Hospitalières (16 barrels)

Lots 1 à 16. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

A fine crimson purple colour. This has one of the most stylish nose of the Beaune range, including orange blossom and ripe redcurrants. The 2021 Cuvée Dames Hospitalières is very far from being a blockbuster but with a smoothly satisfying cashmere textured fruit that fills the palate. Medium acidity, fine grained, a graceful wine.

Beaune, 1er Cru Clos des Avaux (9 barrels)

Lots 214 to 222. Estimate: €9,000-14,000

Bright crimson purple, and while the bouquet is notably reductive at the moment, this will pass. Behind that, the wine has a concentration of deep red fruit and the firm structure which Clos des Avaux typically offers, making this a good cuvée to lay down. Well balanced also by the acidity.

THE RED WINES - BEAUNE 1ER CRU

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BEAUNE 1er CRU

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Maurice Drouhin (13 barrels)

Lots 295 to 307. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

The Cuvée Maurice Drouhin was going through a reductive stage and so little was apparent on the nose. However, the qualities of this wine were nonetheless discoverable on the palate, with smooth ripe raspberry notes beneath, the structure built a little more on fine tannins than acidity.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Rousseau-Deslandes (11 barrels)

Lots 262 to 272. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

A beautiful pure purple. The bouquet is strikingly elegant yet with a depth of fruit behind. Some ripe cherries in the mix. The fruit is not too exuberant but it fills the palate very well, now with some alpine strawberries, leading to a pure clean fine and persistent finish.

Beaune, 1er Cru Les Grèves, Cuvée Floquet (6 barrels)

Lots 72 to 77. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

Fine mid crimson. The bouquet has a little barrel toast, very punchy with excellent vigorous red fruit, and the stony underlay which typifies Grèves. A wine of notable structure which can age very well. Cuvée Floquet typically starts to taste well at a relatively early age and then stays the course. The 2021 vintage will follow suit.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Guigone de Salins (15 barrels)

Lots 45 to 59. Estimate: €9,000-13,000

A fine glowing light purple. This has an exceptionally classy bouquet that kicks on from the initial raspberry fruit, yet with some structure beneath. There is striking intensity to this wine while retaining the quintessential elegance which we associate with this cuvée named in honour of the co-founder of the Hotel Dieu and Hospices de Beaune, Guigone de Salins.

Beaune, 1er Cru, Cuvée Nicolas Rolin (15 barrels)

Lots 188 to 202. Estimate: €9,000-15,000

One of the deeper more vigorous colours. This cuvée is typically among the more muscular and ageworthy wines, and once again in 2021 it portrays a robust style of Beaune. The dark raspberry fruit absolutely fills the palate, tannins are present at the finish but they are suitably ripened, the little point of acidity retains a valuable freshness and the finish is admirably persistent. A beautiful wine!

THE RED WINES - VOLNAY & POMMARD

“The story is very different between Volnay and Pommard as far as yields are concerned. Volnay suffered most from the frost with only half the number of barrels offered in 2020, whereas for Pommard the deficit is just 18%. Quality is not affected in either case. The village Pommard cuvées and the Volnay 1ers crus, Santenots excepted, are lodged in barrels from Ermitage, the remainder from François Frères.”

VOLNAY & POMMARD

Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots, Cuvée Jéhan de Massol (9 barrels)

Lots 126 to 134. Estimate: €15,000-20,000

Another striking mid purple colour. The bouquet is a little more restrained than Cuvée Gouvain, as the wine seems to be at a more backward stage. It is all about the intensity of the deep but fresh red raspberry fruit, backed by good acidity more than tannins. All is in place but this is a wine which will take longer to express itself and should keep very well for the long term.

Volnay 1er Cru, Cuvée Général Muteau (11 barrels)

Lots 34 to 44. Estimate: €10,000-15,000

Full mid purple. A little bit of barrel toast. This is not a flamboyant Volnay but a wine with a measure thread, showing notable complexity in the aromatics which include plums and raspberry with a little orange zest and some almond blossom. Overall Cuvée Général Muteau offers medium-bodied plump red fruit with good acidity behind.

Volnay 1er Cru, Cuvée Blondeau (9 barrels)

Lots 88 to 96. Estimate: €10,000-14,000

Clear mid purple. There is a fair intensity of deep red fruit here, lifted acidity, Cuvée Blondeau comes across as slightly smoother and plusher than Général Muteau with a longer finish. Some bilberries can be found in the fruit profile. There is a feel of a little more sunshine here in this more flamboyant.

Volnay 1er Cru Les Santenots, Cuvée Gouvain (7 barrels)

Lots 238 to 244. Estimate: €12,000-16,000

A lovely glowing crimson purple colour, the 2021 Cuvée Gouvain has a striking energy to the nose, while remaining light on its feet. This is a multi-layered wine with fruit that has ripened while staying fresh enough. There is some blood orange aspect here. Fine boned and persistent.

Pommard 1er Cru, Cuvée Dames de la Charité (17 barrels)

17 barrels. Estimate: €10,000-15,000

Glowing purple. The bouquet is very stylish though not wanting to give up its individual fruit. For a vintage which speaks more of delicacy, this Pommard is on the sumptuous side with raspberries and loganberries filling the palate in a very satisfactory degree. Sensual rather than rustic. And further good news is that there are almost as many barrels this year as last.

Pommard, Cuvée Billardet (7 barrels)

Lots 135 to 141. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

Cuvée Billardet is always a well-constructed Pommard with the structure to age. The 2021 has a depth of fruit, darker in profile than many cuvées, supported by a well integrated mix of tannins and acidity. This is a brooding Pommard for the medium to long term.

Pommard, Cuvée Suzanne Chaudron (12 barrels)

Lots 316 to 327. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

Clear energetic purple, “Suzanne” comes over as a stylish Pommard, with a lively deep red fruit, a redcurrant note livening up the raspberry and engaging cherry notes. The structure is built around the acidity as much as the tannin, because the tannins have ripened very nicely. With this notable elegance of style, Cuvée Suzanne Chaudron offers a perfectly poised Pommard.

Pommard, Cuvée Raymond Cyrot (13 barrels)

Lots 225 to 237. Estimate: €8,000-12,000

Mid purple, a firmer fruit up front, Cuvée Raymond Cyrot seems at first less elegant than Cuvée Suzanne Chaudron but this changes as the wine spreads out across the palate, filling up the finish very nicely with fine grained tannins and the right acid balance at the finish. Of the three village Pommard cuvées, this has the finest ageing potential. Note that this wine does in fact include grapes from three different Pommard 1er cru vineyards.

Pommard, 1er Cru Les Epenots, Cuvée Dom Goblet (10 barrels)

Lots 78 to 87. Estimate: €16,000-24,000

The same number of barrels of Cuvée Dom Goblet are being offered as last year! Medium purple in colour, this cuvée currently shows a very reduced bouquet, a passing phase which will not linger. On the palate, the fruit clearly obtained ripeness, with fine-grained tannins, medium density (Epenots should never be a blockbuster), and an attractive long finish with some floral notes, roses at the height of their powers.

THE RED WINES - GRANDS CRUS

“The Hospices de Beaune Grands Crus are perfectly balanced between the Côte de Beaune and the Côte de Nuits. The former are from the Hill of Corton and offer three widely different interpretations (and price points) from the charm of Charlotte Dumay via the structure of Docteur Peste to the most complete rendition delivered by the Baronne du Baÿ. Similar contrasts can be seen in the three wines from the Côte de Nuits. All the red Grands Crus are lodged in barrels provided by the cooper Taransaud from the Forest of Moladier in the Allier département.”

THE GRANDS CRUS

Corton, Grand Cru, Cuvée Charlotte Dumay (9 barrels)

Lots 63 to 71. Estimate: €18,000-26,000

No more than medium deep in colour, Charlotte Dumay carries her usual grace on the nose. Very pretty little fresh alpine strawberries and a sweeter raspberry fruit behind. Everything is perfectly, harmoniously, in balance. This cuvée should drink very well after 6 to 8 years.

Corton, Grand Cru, Cuvée Docteur Peste (8 barrels)

Lots 203 to 210. Estimate: €20,000-28,000

One of the reductive cuvées at the moment, showing some toasty barrel notes which are transitory. Slightly deeper in colour than Charlotte Dumay and somewhat firmer in profile, there is a density and suppleness to the darker fruit behind, with some ripe dark cherry showing. The tannins are nicely poised alongside a useful point of acidity. One for the longer term.

Corton Clos du Roi, Grand Cru, Cuvée Baronne du Baÿ (3 barrels)

Lots 97 to 99. Estimate: €30,000-40,000

A fine fresh mid purple, the Cuvée Baronne du Baÿ has the nobility of bouquet associated with the magnificent Clos du Roi vineyard, which is certainly at the heart of Corton. The fruit is absolutely on the cusp between red and black notes, showing optimum ripeness, and again the balance between tannins and acidity is perfectly judged. This is a beautiful wine with an impeccable persistence of flavour.

Echezeaux Grand Cru, Cuvée Jean-Luc Bissey (4 barrels)

184 to 187. Estimate: €60,000-90,000

The Echezeaux is a late developer, which finished fermenting the last of its sugar after transfer to barrel. Showing a dense, attractive youthful purple colour, the 2021 Cuvée Jean-Luc Bissey still has the relics of some fermentation aromas, almost like tasting the grape juice in its original form. This is a baby which has barely learned to walk yet. Nonetheless a vast volume of fruit is clearly present, even if it has not yet settled down. The fruit is livened up by just the right acidity at the finish. Very promising!

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru, Cuvée Cyrot Chaudron (2.5 barrels)

Clos de la Roche Grand Cru, Cuvée Georges Ritter (3 barrels)

Lots 60 to 62 & lots 211 to 213. Estimate €80,000-130,000

Please note that while two cuvées of Clos de la Roche are offered with separate names, referring to the different benefactors, there is just one wine made which is then shared between the two cuvées. Deep crimson purple. The nose is a little reductive at the moment, though also enlivened by the 30% of whole cluster vinification. There is a vibrant mix of sumptuous red fruit with some blood orange notes mixed in. This wine really kicks on in explosive fashion. The whole clusters add a delicious peppery tingle to the extended finish. A very fine Grand Cru!

Mazis Chambertin Grand Cru, Cuvée Madeleine Collignon (14.5 barrels)

Lot 100 to 114. Estimate €60,000-90,000

Wonderfully intense purple, this has the deepest fruit of all on the nose. The 2021 Cuvée Madeleine Collignon offers a bouquet of piercing red fruit, some citrus zest, a sense of nobility, body without undue opulence, length, ripe tannins and fresh acidity. The whole makes up a noble grand cru, perfectly disciplined and with excellent ageing potential. Ludivine Griveau notes that the Mazis-Chambertin took its time for the fruit to come out during vinification, but now it certainly has!

THE PRESIDENTS' BARREL

Lot 115. Estimate on request

One unique barrel of Grand Cru Corton Renardes will be offered this year as 'La Pièce des Présidents'. This barrel has been specially crafted by master cooper François Frères from Burgundian oak taken from the Forest of Citeaux, using wood of the very finest grain. The best grapes from the Hospices de Beaune holding of Corton Renardes were selected by eye from their trays, destemmed and then vinified in this barrel where the wine is now maturing tranquilly.

The gorgeous elegant sensual bouquet indicates a wine of the finest precision and class. This is followed by extraordinary delicacy on the attack and intensity behind. The aromatic profile is different to the other Corton wines, with both fresh and dried roses, alpine strawberries, boysenberries and a hint of garrigue. To finish there is a perfect touch of tannins and vivacious acidity. There is just one barrel of Hospices de Beaune 2021 Corton Renardes in existence, and this is it!



Sotheby's EST. 1744 Wine

