wine is terroir®




## CHAMPAGNE: it ain't just with bubbles...sometimes there are no bubbles...WTF?!

Coteaux-Champenois (100% pinot noir), Robert Barbichon, 2022 120.

Coteaux-Champenois (100% pinot noir), *Garage Rouge*, Gallois Bouché, 2021 275.

Coteaux-Champigny (90% meunier, 10% pinot gris), *La Garde*, Éric Taillet, 2019 145.

Coteaux Champenois (100% meunier), *Confiance*, Franck Pascal, 2014 205.

## BEAUJOLAiS...of the Philip the Bold "i banish you" persuasion

Beaujolais-Villages (100% gamay), *Vieilles Vignes*, Jean-Claude Lapalu, 2024 78.

Morgon (100% gamay), *Cote du Puy*, Foillard, 2024 120.

Morgon (100% gamay), *Chateau Gaillard*, Desvignes, 2024 88.

Morgon (100% gamay), *Javernieres*, Desvignes, 2024 104.

Cote de Brouilly (100% gamay), Jean-Claude Lapalu, 2023 96.

## LOiRE VALLEY & ENViRONS

Sancerre (100% pinot noir), *Chavignol*, Pierre Martin, 2023 90.

Sancerre (100% pinot noir), Vincent Gaudry, 2023 125.

Chinon (100% cabernet franc), *Vieilles Vignes*, Philippe Alliet, 2022 100.

Chinon (100% cabernet franc), *Les Picasses*, Olga Raffault, 2008 140.

Chinon (100% cabernet franc), *Les Cornuelles*, de la Haute Olive, 1989 230.

Saumur-Champigny (100% cabernet franc), Clos Rougeard, 2017 350.

Saumur-Champigny (100% cabernet franc), *Vieilles Vignes*, Filliatreau, 2010 99.

-grown on tuffeau (limestone)...I will one day dig a cave into this hillside and live an hermetic life, focusing only on the music of Voivod, the writings of Mordecai Richler, the humor of Eugene Levy, the food of Matty Matheson

Saumur-Champigny (100% cabernet franc), *Vieilles Vignes*, Filliatreau, 2005 117.

Touraine (100% cabernet franc), *Clos de Maulevrier*, Marc Plouzeau, 2007 --PRE-PHYLLOXERA ALERT-- 189.

wine is terroir®




## NORTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY... but ONLY Côte-Rôtie

Côte-Rôtie (90% syrah, 10% viognier), *Les Binardes*, Maison Stephan, 2022 — 245.

Côte-Rôtie (45% serine, 40% syrah, 15% viognier), *L'Ultime*, Maison Stephan, 2021 — 275.

Côte-Rôtie (100% serine), *Coteaux de Tupin*, Maison Stephan, 2020 — 299.

Côte-Rôtie (40% syrah, 40% serine, 20% viognier), *Coteaux de Bassenon*, Maison Stephan, 2020 — 297.

Côte-Rôtie (100% syrah), *La Giroflarie*, Patrick Jasmin, 2015 --3000ml *aka* JEROBOAM-- 800.

Côte-Rôtie (100% syrah), *Les Terrases*, Jamet, 2014 — 285.

Côte-Rôtie (100% syrah), *La Viaillère*, Louis Barruol, 2013 — 265.

Côte-Rôtie (100% syrah), *Les Terrases*, Jamet, 2013 — 270.

Côte-Rôtie (100% syrah), *La Landonne*, E. Guigal, 2013 — 880.

-first released in 1978, it took roughly 10 years to assemble the parcels, from 17 different stakeholders, on the Côte Brune...originally 1.8 hectares, it has now settled into its 2.1 hectare frame; the vines average 35 years of ageing

-the wine underwent a 4-week maceration, followed by 42 months of ageing in new French oak

-STYLE: well, it is the most brooding and meaty of Guigal's *LaLa's*...very much an early Black Sabbath wine

Côte-Rôtie (93% syrah, 7% viognier), *La Turque*, E. Guigal, 2012 — 875.

-well, well, well, Santa came early and brought us a kind present. Truly, this wine has never crossed our threshold before and I am not sure how I ended up with this bottle...it might actually have fallen off the back of truck in Soho, to be honest. All in all, **terroir** is a better wine joint because of this iconic wine and **terroir** is a better joint overall because you have decided to read this list...and you must be crazy!

-the single vineyard, located on Côte Brune, was planted in 1980 (it was certainly cultivated beforehand but was abandoned in the 1960s / 70s and then acquired by Guigal in his purchasing of the Vidal-Fleury holdings). The vineyard is super steep, between 60° to 70°.

-the first release was in 1985 and it became of the 3rd BIG WINE of the LaLa series by Guigal

-STYLE: well, it rests nicely in the middle of Guigal's *LaLa's...not too bright, not too dark*...very much a Lorde wine

## NORTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY... but *ONLY* Cornas

Vin de France (100% syrah), Domaine de la Grande Colline, 2019 — 375.

Cornas (100% syrah), *La Chavaroche*, Vignobles Levet, 2022 --3000ml *aka* JEROBOAM-- 875.

Cornas (100% syrah), *Billes Noires*, Domaine du Coulet, 2020 — 203.

## NORTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY... everywhere else...

Syrah, Herve Souhaut, 2024 — 90.

Hermitage (100% syrah), Marc Sorrel, 2021 — 445.

Hermitage (100% syrah), *Le Gréal*, Marc Sorrel, 2019 — 635.

-the bottling is a combination of .8 hecatres of vines in Le Méal and 1 hectare of vines in Greffieux and Bessards

-the vines were planted in 1928 by Félix Sorrel, the present vigneron's great grandfather (Henri Sorrel died in 1984)

-Marc Sorrel took over from his papa, Henri, in 1982; Marc was previously a notary, his father was a notary and I think his grandfather was a notary; Marc's son, Guillaume, now (as of 2018) oversees things...we fully expect him to maintain the poignancy




wine is terroir®

## SOUTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY: the Châteauneuf Master Blaster

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, *Réserve des Célestins*, Henri Bonneau*, 2012 **-GRAND VIN CUVÉE ALERT-** 635.

-90% grenache (generally late harvested) + 10% mourvèdre, syrah, counoise, vaccarèse

-the whole clusters are crushed, then fermented for 3 weeks in concrete vats, followed by 2-4 years ageing in dank, old barrels

*Why Henri Bonneau is *THE* master blaster of Châteauneuf-du-Pape:

-Henri is the 12th generation of his winemaking family (vines were first ended by the family in 1667)

-Henri was born on October 1st, 1938, in Provence...and remained Provençal in all his attitudes and appetites

-Henri's first vintage was 1956 (the estate started bottling their own wine in 1927)

-Henri's best friend was Jacques Reynaud, of Château Rayas...Henri was the talker, Jacques was the wallflower

-Henri learned to make wine from his father and grandfather...and the Time Life series of *How To* books

-Henri served in the Algerian War...and his national duty accounts for the only vintage he ever missed

-Henri has 6.5 hectares of vineyards, composed of 13 different plots

-the largest parcel is in La Crau, followed by Grand Pierre

-Henri is not a believer in vieilles vignes...the average vine age is 30 years and nothing is older than 50 years

-Henri pursues super low yields in his harvests

-Henri dislikes the Syrah grape...apparently, they got into a bar fight one night over a song on the jukebox

-Henri likes to pump over his wine a shit-tonne at the beginning of fermentation

-Henri always blends his press wine back into the free-run juice...nothing goes to waste

-Henri only racks his wine once a year

-Henri separates his vineyard parcels into different vats BUT combines the various varietals

-Henri's barrels are so damn old that Jean-Baptiste Colbert actually felled the trees that were cut into the staves to make these barrels

-the old barrels are actually from Burgundy...the home of all old stuff

-Henri's cellar is filled with mold and mildew that even Alexander Fleming could not identify

-Henri probably keeps his wine in oak for such a period so that the damn fermentation can finish (please reference the late harvesting)

-Henri only decides what the composition of the cuvées will be long after the vintage...they are not vineyard parcels nor is there a récipe

-okay, not entirely true...the Célestins generally comes primarily from the La Crau parcel (a boulder strewn, sunbaked vineyard) AND the supposed better barrels in the cellar while the Cuvée Marie Beurrier comes from the clay, sand, limestone parcels

-Henri first produced the *Cuvée Marie Beurrier* in the early 1980s; it was named after his wife's aunt, who was a kick-arse cook

-Henri was not alive when the first vintage of the Réserve des Célestins was produced in 1927

-Henri apparently makes a 4th cuvée, called *Cuvée Spéciale*, which has higher alcohol and some residual sugar (it is not meant for kids)

-this wine has only been made in 1990 and 1998 and was apparently the result of barrels bound for the Célestins cuvée that did not finish fermentation...Henri suggested matching these with a chocolate mousse, as if the wines were more Madeira-like (they are 17°!!!)

-Henri's cellar door is located at 35 Rue Joseph Ducos

-Henri Bonneau passed this mortal coil in March 21st, 2016.

-Henri's son Marcel (born 1971) inherited the estate but was unfortunately not able to run it. It is now overseen by Daniel Combin, who served as the comercial director of the property during Henri's life. Régis Charmasson oversees the vineyard work (there is greater neatness in the vine rows now) and the cellar work (still an insane mind-meld of anti U.C. Davis stuff going on)

wine is terroir®




## SOUTHERN RHÔNE VALLEY...

*L'Exclus d'Alary* (100% counoise), Domaine Alary, 2022 — 69.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Chateau Beaucastel, 2016 — 385.

-30% grenache, 30% mourvèdre, 15% syrah, 10% counoise, 5% cinsault, 10% other allowed varietals

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Le Vieux Donjon, 2015 --3000ml *aka* JEROBOAM-- 705.

-75% grenache, 10% syrah, 10% mourvèdre, 5% cinsault

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, *Cuvée Centenaire,* Les Cailloux, 2006 — 485.

-80% grenache, 12% mourvèdre, 5% syrah

## SOUTHWEST... the home of Musketeers and cassoulet

-last seen in Jurançon, searching for the mysterious cellar of Clos Joliette.

## ALSACE... because the rouge juice is just as compelling as the blanc juice

Pinot Noir, *Altenbourg,* Domaine Weinbach, 2019 — 140.

## JURA & ARBOIS & SAVOIE

Côtes du Jura (100% pinot noir), *Charmes Vernambaud,* De L'Aigle à Deux Têtes, 2023 — 130.

Trousseau (100% trousseau), Les Matheny, 2022, Arbois — 95.

Ploussard (100% ploussard), *"la Bidode,"* Overnoy-Crinquand, 2022, Arbois-Pupillin — 65.

Mondeuse (100% mondeuse), Domaine Lupin, 2024, Savoie — 80.

Mondeuse (100% mondeuse), *Black Giac,* Domaine Giachino, 2024, Savoie — 92.

Vin de France (gamay, mondeuse, pinot noir), *Frisson des Cimes,* Marie & Florian Curtet, 2020, Savoie — 80.

## THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST OF FRANCE... or, at least nearby

Bandol (92% mourvèdre, 6% syrah, 2% cinsault), *La Tourtine.* Domaine Tempier, 2023, Provence — 215.

Alpilles, (50% grenache, 30% syrah, 20% cabernet sauvignon) *Cornaline,* Domaine Hauvette, 2019, Provence — 150.

Vin de Pays du Gard, *Reserva Especial N°,* Roc d'Anglade, NV — 230.

-50% Carignan, 25% Mourvèdre, 25% Grenache, Syrah and Cinsault

Côtes de Roussillon (80% carignan and 20% grenache), Domaine Vaquer, 1985, Roussillon — 89.

wine is terroir®




## THE iBERiAN PENiNSULA... of Spain

Ribeira Sacra, *Misturado de Abeleda,* a Chingao Vineyards & Envínate, 2022, Galicia 99.

-a field blend of 65% rojo (mencia, brancellao, alicante bouschet, mouraton, gran negro) and 35% blanco (godello, torrontes, treixadura, albariño, doña branca).

Doad, *Lousas,* Envínate, 2022, Galicia 100.

-89% mencia + brancellao, merenzao, grao negro, garnacha tintorera +++

Rioja, *Monte Gatun,* Arizcuren, 2022, La Rioja 95.

-55% tempranillo, 30% garnacha, 15% mazuela

Rioja, *Espirbel,* Cosecheros de Lebastida (Alain Quintana), 2020, La Rioja 130.

-tempranillo, garnacha, malvasia

Rioja Reserva, *Viña Tondonia,* R. Lopez de Heredia, 2004, La Rioja --1500ml *aka* MAGNUM-- 499.

-75% tempranillo, 15% garnacho, 5% graciano, 5% mazuelo

Rioja Gran Reserva Especial (100% tempranillo), *Castillo Ygay,* Marquis de Murrieta, 1994, La Rioja 350.

Rioja Gran Reserva (100% tempranillo), *Coto de Imaz,* El Coto, 1984, La Rioja 195.

wine is terroir®




## THE iBERiAN PENiNSULA... of Spain

*Gran Coronas* (100% cabernet Sauvignon), *Mas La Plana*, Torres, 1978, Penèdes 375.

*Gran Coronas* (100% cabernet Sauvignon), *Mas La Plana*, Torres, 1971, Penèdes 270.

*Viña Bonita* (100% garnacha), Bernabeleva, 2022, Sierra de Gredos 130.

-100% garnacha tinta, grown on granite, at 2700'

*Rozas*, Comando G, 2023, Sierra de Gredos 127.

*Cien Lanzas*, 4 Monos, 2021, Sierra de Gredos 88.

-about 90% old vine garnacha tinta with small amounts of cariñena and grenache blanc

*Pelito Lindo* (100% garnacha), Las Pedreras, 2021, Sierra de Gredos 130.

*Las Altas de Frontonio* (100% garnacha), *La Tejera*, Bodegas Frontonio, 2020, Aragón 135.

*Tragolargo* (100% monastrell), Casa Balaguer, 2024, Alicante 64.

*Táganan, Vinos Atlánticos*, Envínate, 2022, Tenerife (Táganan) 95.

-listán negro and negramoll, with mulata, listán gacho, malvasía rosada / vines range in age from 50 -150 years of age / the vineyards range in altitude from 600' to 1200' / each parcel is vinified separately, with 50% whole clusters, followed by 12-15 days of maceration / the wines are blended and aged for 1 year in neutral barriques

-*táganan* is the local word for slope...and these vines grow wild on super steep slopes of pure volcanic rock

*Migan* (100% listan negro), a Chingao Vineyards & Envínate, 2021, Tenerife 85.

*La Santa de Úrsula*, "Vinos Atlánticos," Envínate, 2021, Tenerife 101.

-48% negramoll, 50% listán negro, 2% listán blanco

## THE iBERiAN PENiNSULA... of Portugal

**please tell Paul that he is really falling short here with the wines of Portugal...

so much so that I might be forced to enjoy a bottle of Riesling in protest

wine is terroir®




## GERMANY...

| | |
|---|---|
| Portugieser (100% portugieser), *Sand & Kiesel,* Rings, 2019, Pfalz | 92. |
| Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), *Muschelkalk,* Enderle & Moll, 2023, Baden | 119. |
| Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), *Buntsandstein,* Enderle & Moll, 2023, Baden | 115. |
| Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), *Liason,* Enderle & Moll, 2023, Baden | 89. |
| Spätburgunder (100% pinot noir), *Mohlin,* Wasenhaus, 2023, Baden | 234. |
| Spätburgunder (100% pinot noir), Schloss Lieser, 2022, Mosel | 135. |
| Spätburgunder (100% pinot noir), *Auf Dem Haun,* Adamswein, 2021, Rhein | 132. |
| Spätburgunder Trocken (100% pinot noir), *Buntsandstein,* Steintal, 2020, Franken | 95. |
| Lemberger (100% lemberger), *G.G. Lämmler,* Schnaitmann, 2019, Württemberg | 121. |

## AUSTRIA...

| | |
|---|---|
| Indigo N°5 (100% blauer wildbacher), *Trauben, Liebe und Zeit,* Strohmeier, NV, Styria | 115. |
| Rotburger (100% rotburger), Umathum, 2022, Burgenland | 73. |
| Sankt Laurent (100% st. laurent), Rose Schuster, 2024, Burgenland | 84. |
| Blaufränkisch (100% blaufränkisch), *Aus dem Kalk,* Wenzel, 2022, Burgenland | 79. |
| Blaufränkisch (100% blaufränkisch), *Ried Saybritz "Eisenberg Reserve,"* Wachter-Wiesler, 2018, Burgenland | 134. |
| Blaufränkisch (100% blaufränkisch), *Ried Reihburg "Eisenberg Reserve,"* Wachter-Wiesler, 2018, Burgenland | 137. |

wine is terroir®




## LEBANON... the land of milk and honey

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Grand Vin* (33% cabernet sauvignon, 33% cinsault, 33% carignan, 1% love), Chateau Musar, 2018, Bekaa Valley | | 175. |
| *Grand Vin* (33% cabernet sauvignon, 33% cinsault, 33% carignan, 1% love), Chateau Musar, 2009, Bekaa Valley | | 360. |
| *Grand Vin* (33% cabernet sauvignon, 33% cinsault, 33% carignan, 1% love), Chateau Musar, 2003, Bekaa Valley | | 385. |
| *Grand Vin* (33% cabernet sauvignon, 33% cinsault, 33% carignan, 1% love ) Chateau Musar, 2001, Bekaa Valley | | 410. |
| *Grand Vin* (33% cabernet sauvignon, 33% cinsault, 33% carignan, 1% love), Chateau Musar, 1999, Bekaa Valley | | 525. |

### The Facts:

-the vineyards are located in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon (gravelly soil with a limestone base; the area is frost and disease free)
-the winery is located on Mount Lebanon; the Road to Demascus connects them
-the first vineyard was planted in 1930 by Gaston Hochar
-as the French controlled Lebanon at the turn of the 20th Century,
the French influenced the grapes planted and the winemaking practices
-the Barton family of Bordeaux, owners of Langoa Barton,
taught the Hochars about the ageing of wine in barrique
-the French army were the first real customers of the wine;
they departed the country after WWII taking the majority of the customers away
-the next 30 years, however, were a golden period for Lebanon as it became a cosmopolitan sanctuary
-the Civil War, from 1975 to 1991, decimated the country but ever resolute Serge Hochar (son of Gaston)
and his crew only missed one vintage, 1976
-the Tipping Point for Chateau Musar came in 1979 at the Bristol Wine Fair in England
when the illustrious Michael Broadbent tasted the 1967, 1961, and 1959 vintages and declared:
"hard to describe, full, soft – a bit of claret, a touch of Burgundy."

### An Ode to Serge Hochar...because he is my spirit animal:

Simply put, the world of wine had never before seen a Serge Hochar
(and I am going back to Noah and his boat filled with vinous wonders).
Born into a family whose roots extend back 800 years in Lebanon
(they came originally from France as Templar Knights to purge the Holy Land of infidels),
Serge became history manifest, fully understanding / exhibiting / expounding the glories and wonders of his land. Lebanon,
and its Bekaa Valley, were a wonder to Serge, and he reveled in the energy of the people and the bounty of the terroir.
Why his father, Gaston, started the winery in 1930, Serge never understood.
But, in 1959, after studying engineering, Serge joined the winery as an aspiring winemaker.
It would take about 20 years and the unlearning of techniques taught by Emile Peynaud at the University of Bordeaux
before Serge fully realized the wine he wanted to craft. For such a man of the world and a partaker of all of its joys, he was also a
man of God and felt that wine was God's gift to us...and that, through wine, we could sense God's humanity.
God must truly be a crazy cat because Serge created wines that arrested your senses and were sometimes completely insensible.
But, boy, those wines had vim and vigor...and a life force that touched your heart, your mind, your toes and your soul. Serge did
not want us to dwell on his passing as the absence of life was of completely no interest to him.
He demanded that we continue to live life and to relish all its vagaries.
And to taste wine...yes, we must taste wine so that our hearts can be filled with joy.
Serge Hochar, we raise a glass of wine to you nightly, because it is the righteous thing to do.

wine is terroir®




# REDS

## SWITZERLAND...

*La Petite Grange,* Marie-Therese Chappaz, 2023, Valais 135.

-51% gamaret, 29% galotta, 10% diolinoir

Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), *Les Esserts,* Marie-Therese Chappaz, 2023, Valais 147.

Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), *Charrat,* Marie-Therese Chappaz, 2022, Valais 144.

## HUNGARY...

-somewhere in the backstreets of Budapest, our driver developed Lisztomania, some still hear him singing.

## GREECE... because before the Romans, there were the Greeks...

## and they taught the Romans E-V-E-R-Y-T-H-i-N-G

Rapsani (50% xinomavro, 35% krassato, 15% stavroto), *Terra Petra,* Terra Olympus, 2020, Thessaly 90.

Mavroudi (100% mavroudi), *Fine Mavroudi,* Anatolikos, 2021, Thrace 88.

Limniona (100% limniona), Oenops, 2021, Macedonia 71.

Goumenissa (100% xinomavro), Domaine Tatsis, 2011, Macedonia 85.

## iSRAEL... it ain't all sons of Abraham++... there is kick arse wine, too.

*Shoresh,* Tzora Vineyards, 2021, Judean Hills 77.

-35% syrah, 30% merlot, 25% cabernet sauvignon, 10% petit verdot

## GEORGiA: yep, this is *that* Georgia and not the southern state of...

Asuretuli Shavi (100% asuretuli shavi), Kapistoni, 2024, Kartli 88.

wine is terroir®

# REDS

## SOUTH AFRiCA...

| | |
|---|---|
| Cinsault (100% cinsault), *Ramnasgras,* A.A. Badenhorst, 2023, Swartland | 115. |
| Cinsault (100% cinsault), *Pofadder,* Sadie Family Wines, 2022, Swartland | 169. |
| Grenache (100% grenache), Momento, 2023, Swartland | 70. |
| Grenache (100% grenache), *Soldaat,* Sadie Family Wines, 2022, Swartland | 172. |
| Tinta Barocca (100% tinta barocca), Treinspoor, Sadie Family Wines, 2020, Swartland | 139. |
| Pinotage(100% pinotage), Wolf & Woman, 2024, Swartland | 92. |



wine is terroir®




## ARGENTINA... a lesson in how to live life, without a functioning economy

Bastardo (100% bastardo), *Rio Negro,* Riccitelli, 2024, Mendoza 88.

Criolla Chica, *Parcela La Totora,* Cara Sur, 2022, Barreal, Calingasta Valley 80.

Malbec, *Concreto,* Zuccardi, 2023, Valle de Uco 100.

Malbec, *Aluvional "La Altamira",* Zuccardi, 2020, Valle de Uco 175.

Malbec, *Iubileus,* Per Se Vines, 2019, Gualtallary / Valle de Uco --VERY IMPORTANT WINE ALERT-- 499.

-okay, first of, this wine has nothing to do to the gastronomic temple located at Columbus Circle (are we still allowed to call it that?!) but permission had to be given by Thomas Keller & crew to allow this wine into America...no kidding

-the estate was created in 2012 by David Bonomi, Edgrado del Popolo and Santiago del Popolo; their sole intention was to plant the Malbec grape as close to heaven as they could get; they enlisted the help of the monks of the Monasterio del Cristo Orante (I am not kidding!!!) and grapes went into the ground at 4500', in the northwest corner of the Uco Valley (apparently, God spends some weekends here to get away from the Holy Spirit, who can be a little too dogmatic at times...wait, that is Joseph Ratzinger)

-spontaneous fermentation in neutral oak, with 40 days of maceration / extraction by rolling those barrels around the cellar, then aged for 16 months in those exact same barrels

*La Craie*, Per Se Vines, 2019, Gualtallary / Valle de Uco --VERY IMPORTANT WINE ALERT-- 551.

-70% malbec + 30% cabernet franc, co-fermented in neutral oak, with 40 days of maceration, then aged 16 months in those barrels

## CHILE... they do not have a coffee culture (truly, this land still thinks Sanka is the epitome of the *Coffea arabica*) but the grape juice is pretty damn awesome

Pinot Noir, *Lunita,* Bodega Chacra, 2024, Rio Negro 130.

Pino Noir, Coteaux de Trumao, 2022, Osorno Valley 80.

Pinot Noir, *Quebrada Chalinga,* Marcelo Retamal, 2020, Limari Valley 119.

Pais, *Santa Cruz de Coya,* Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Bio Bio Valley 70.

Pais, *Cerro La Trinchera,* Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Bio Bio Valley 84.

San Francisco (100% san francisco), *Passageiro Escondido,* Garage Wine Co., 2023, Maule 60.

Carmenere, *Alto de Piedras,* De Martino, 2014, Maipo Valley 92.

wine is terroir®



## PEDRO PARRA...the only dr. of terroir that we know of...AND he is a rock star (as in *a star of rocks*) AND a rock whisperer AND a psychic to soil

Cinsault, *TRANE*, Pedro Parra y Familia, 2023, Valle del Itata 109.

-79 year old , dry farmed vines
-grown on stony, red, silty quartzic granitic soil
-100% whole cluster fermentation in concrete & aged in untoasted oak barrels
-the *TRANE* is John Coltrane* - purveyor of energy, tension and complexity, matching the creativity and presence of this wine.

♫♫♫♫♫♫♫

Cinsault, *HUB*, Pedro Parra y Familia, 2022, Valle del Itata 90.

-80-year old, dry farmed vines
-vineyard is stony and sandy, with quartzic granitic
-60% whole cluster fermentation in concrete & aged in concrete
-the *HUB* is Freddie Hubbard* - a sharp trumpet player more than a complex trumpet player...this is a *1er Cru* wine, not a *Grand Cru* wine

♫♫♫♫♫♫♫

Cinsault, *MILES*, Pedro Parra y Familia, 2021, Valle del Itata 115.

-vines were planted when Teddy Roosevelt was President
-vineyard is silt and sand, with low iron content
-fermented in concrete, with 50-day maceration; aged in untoasted oak barrels
-the *MILES* is Miles Davis* - maybe the most complex jazz musician ever, to match Pedro's best vineyard

♫♫♫♫♫♫♫

## Who is this Pedro Parra?

He is: the *Master Blaster* of Terra Firma / the *Father* of Dragonstone / the *Breaker* of Soil Stereotypes, the first *Doctor* of Terroir / the *Khal* of the Great Terrestrial Sphere

Okay, for real now, he:

-is a man from Chile, presently living in Concepción
-has a Ph.D. from the Institut National Agronomique de Paris-Grignon...and that Ph.D. is in TERROIR!
-studied rocks...and only rocks...he does not have any degrees in winemaking
-consults with winemakers all over the world, helping them to craft terroir-expressive wines
-does not like Coca Cola wines

*Pedro Parra loves jazz and I mean *LOVES* jazz.
Pedro *LOVES* jazz like I love coffee.
Pedro *LOVES* jazz like Ronaldo loves showing his gleaming abs after every goal scored.
Pedro *LOVES* jazz like Alex Morgan loves taking a sip of tea.

wine is terroir®




## The AMERICAN ANTiPODES... i think...

| | |
|---|---|
| Grenache (100% grenache), *The Vincent*, Cirillo, 2024, Barossa | 72. |
| Grenache (100% grenache), *Krondorf 1903*, Eperosa, 2022, Barossa | 118. |
| Shiraz (100% syrah), Cirillo, 2024, Barossa | 75. |
| Shiraz, (100% shiraz), *Love me Love you*, Charlotte Dalton, 2022, Adelaide | 68. |
| Shiraz (95%) / Viognier (5%), Clonakilla, 2021, Canberra --A NEW CLASSIC AUSSIE WINE-- | 219. |
| -from the *Murrumbateman Vineyard*, this co-ferment lasts roughly 3 weeks, followed by 12 months ageing in barrique | |
| Shiraz, *Old Vine*, Kaesler, 2004, Barossa | 134. |
| Shiraz, *Brookman Vineyard*, Clarendon Hills, 1998, Clarendon | 255. |
| Shiraz, *Eileen Hardy*, Hardys, 1997, McLaren Vale | 121. |
| *Little Wine #13* (100% syrah), Sami-Odi, NV, Barossa Valley | 249. |
| *Hoffmann Dallwitz* (100% syrah), Sami-Odi, 2022, Barossa Valley | 364. |
| Cabernet Sauvignon, *Langhorne Creek*, Charlotte Dalton, 2022, Adelaide | 70. |
| Cabernet Sauvignon, *The Coppermine Road*, d'Arenberg, 1999, McLaren Vale | 120. |

wine is terroir®




## OCHOTA BARRELS is here to save your wine life

**Botanicals**, Ochota Barrels, 2023, Adelaide Hills --CRAZY F*#KIED UP DRY, ROUGE VERMOUTH ALERT-- 105.

-so, please take notes on what I am about to write: the liquid part of this vermouth is composed of 50% pinot noir & 50% meunier (this is from the pressed juice of the grapes, as the free run juice is used to make the varietal wines) / the botanical part (sage, wild fennel, wormwood, elderflower, lemon balm, bay leaf, river mint, thyme, lavender, rosemary, lemon verbena, rose petals, marigolds) of this vermouth are grown in the garden around the family home and were collected by Amber and the kids and added to the grape juice; fermented together, with 2 weeks of maceration, the wine was then racked off the greenery and aged for 5 months in old barriques.

PLEASE NOTE: this could be truly the most terroir-fixated wine on the list! DRINK CHILLED

**Pinot Noir**, *a Forest*, Ochota Barrels, 2024, Adelaide Hills 107.

-the clones of pinot noir (ahhhhh, yes, pinot noir clones...as fascinating a conversation as that of the veracity of the various live recordings of Bauhaus "Bela Lugosi") are MV6 (the "mother vine" of Aussie pinot noir, apparently taken originally from Clos Vougeot), UC Davis D5V12, and Dijon 777, (that is the mark of the Burgundian devil) / they are from two separate vineyards, composed of ironstone and clay-loam / the grapes are 2/3 whole-bunch fermented, in large plastic tubs, with 10-20 days of skin contact; then aged 6 months in old barriques and puncheons (total SO2: 35 ppm)

-*a Forest* is a reference to the Cure's *A Forest*...the opening bass lines are haunting and alluring...like me reading you a bedtime story

**Pinot Meunier**, *The Mark of Cain*, Ochota Barrels, 2024, Adelaide Hills 110.

-these meunier vines are the oldest meunier vines in the Adelaide Hills, planted in 1985, in Sam Vigara's Uva Vineyard, on heavy red clay over granite / primarily de-stemmed, the grapes started fermenting immediately and enjoyed 15 days of skin-contact (with some grape stalks being thrown back in for good measure); then aged 4 months in old barriques (total SO2: 50 ppm)

-The Mark of Cain are a heavy metal / hardcore band from Adelaide (Taras' band, Kranktus, played an opening set for them... Taras was the bass player and he apparently only used the "G" string...less is more, People of America)...listen to *Battlesick* and you will know who influenced Helmet & Type O Negative

**Gamay**, *The Price of Silence*, Ochota Barrels, 2023, Adelaide Hills 108.

-the 19-year-old *Eureka Vineyard*, composed of clay – loam, with some quartz, is the source of these grapes after the previous vineyard source was destroyed in the 2020 wildfires / 50% of the grapes were whole-cluster fermented in the ubiquitous plastic tubs, while the other 50% was fermented carbonic-ly for 3 weeks; then aged 5 months in old barriques (total SO2: 40 ppm)

-The Price of Silence is an Australian hardcore band and *not* the song released in 2008 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

**Grenache**, *Fugazi*, Ochota Barrels, 2024, McLaren Vale 115.

-the dry-farmed, bush vines were planted in 1947, on ironstone infused with some sweet red clay...the vineyard is called *Fugazi*...and needless to say, this vineyard ain't a f*^king fugazi! / there was a cold soak for 24 hours, followed by 80% whole-cluster ferment / 20% hand-destemmed ferment in the almighty plastic fermenters; the fruit was hand-plunged... by hand...and spent between 8-80 days on the skins; then aged 6 months in old barriques (total SO2: 38 ppm)

-yes, this Fugazi is the D.C. band Fugazi...and their music was playing on the stereo when Amber & Taras first arrived at this vineyard

wine is terroir®

**This is a fever dream...**
but one I have harbored since 1978






**This is reality...**
Amber & Taras Ochota

# OCHOTA BARRELS is still here to save your wine life

**Pinot Noir**, *Impeccable Disorder*, Ochota Barrels, 2024, McLaren Vale 232.

- Impeccable Disorder is from a selected parcel in the Piccadilly Valley, This area is regarded as one of the highest-altitude winegrowing regions in Australia (1300 to 1950ft). The grapes are hand-picked and placed into open-top fermenters (40% whole cluster) for spontaneous fermentation. The wine is then racked to a mix of 3/4 old and 1/4 new French oak barrels for aging. The wine is bottled with a small dose of SO2 and a coarse filtration. No fining.
- The label is from Taras' 1990s punk band Kranktus' first album. Just a normal picture of Taras strapped to a chair screaming..... with a TV tied to his head....

**Grenache** *Out of my Head,* Ochota Barrels, 2023, McLaren Vale 111.

- A very small production wine, even for Ochota standards. After a hail storm decimated the Fugazi vineyard, Amber was able to secure fruit from just up the hill, grown by the Wait family and planted in the 1970s. The fruit was hand harvested and brought back to the cellar for spontaneous fermentation in the ubiquitous plastic tubs with half of the fruit intact as whole-clusters and half lightly crushed. After 10 days, the wine was pressed off the skins and was sent to seasoned French barriques for six months of aging. The wine was bottled with just a small dosage of sulfur. (total SO2: 49 ppm)
- Out of my Head is named after Amber and Taras favorite 90s songs from Adelaide punk band 'the exploding white mice.' And the label is a picture of their old fermenter in the winery that Taras decided to spray paint late one night many years ago...

**Grenache**, *The Green Room*, Ochota Barrels, 2023, McLaren Vale 92.

-a combo of 92% grenache vines (80 years old) + 8% syrah*, from the *Grancari Vineyard,* in the Onkaparinga Hills; the soils are clay over schist / 85% of the grapes were whole-cluster fermented after a 5-day cold soak, with 88 days of skin contact...WTF?!; then pressed and aged 4 months in old barriques (total SO2: 62 ppm)

-The Green Room is the vineyard name OR a wine incubator OR a 2015 punk rock horror movie, with Patrick Stewart...he is a bastard

*the syrah got so damn yummy that it was spun off into its own grape juice, to be called *Where's the Pope*

**Grenache**, *186*, Ochota Barrels, 2022, McLaren Vale 247.

-well, not even sure how to *address* this wine because...words will fail / the easy peasy stuff is that the grapes are from the same Blewitt Springs vineyard that gives us the above *Fugazi* / the grapes are whole-cluster fermented in an old Vosges barrique / now, things go askew...this wine remains on the skins for 186 days...that is a massive WTF!?!? / apparently, the mythology is that Taras would lose this barrel in the back of the shed and then on International Grenache Day (the 3rd Friday of September...roughly 186 days after the ferment began), Taras would locate the barrel, remove the head of the barrel, and then press the wine through a vintage pillow case / because Taras would then eat the grape skins and quench his thirst with the wine during this process, so little exists

## OCHOTA BARRELS* NOTES + PHILOSPHY:

-less is more...aka, hands-off winemaking with meticulous attention to detail

-grapes are picked based on acidity, not intensity of flavour...though the Ochota Barrels wines are as yummy as a first kiss in an Adelaide bar

-the wines spend quite a bit of time on the skins, for textural purposes...sort of like mic-ing the crap out of your drum kit

-Ochota Barrels started in 2008...but it really began on a surfing trip along the Mexico coast in 2000 when Amber & Taras decided winegrowing, back home in Aussie Land, was their mutually assured destination (Taras did graduate from Oenology School at Adelaide University / Amber made wine in Italy and oversaw production at the Nordic Sea Winery...in Sweden!)

-championed the revival of the Basket Range of the Adelaide Hills

-the logo creation was nourished by Calvados and symbolizes "the labyrinth of flavour, texture, and emotion"

-Ochota is Ukrainian for "willingness, desire" and Barrels is a surfing reference (it is where you want to be inside of!)

-the music you like directs the type of wines you make (aka, these wines are *not* made by fans of stadium rock from the 1980s)

-"wine produced with none of the nasties and more of the love"

*Taras Ochota passed this mortal coil on October 12th, 2020, at an exceptionally young 49 years of age.

Amber Ochota is continuing to craft the wines, with the help of Louis Schofield (a mate and cellar hand of Taras' for a bunch of years)

wine is terroir®




## AMERICA... and yes, that means the United States of America

Pinot Noir, *Mountain Meadow Vineyard,* Lady of the Sunshine, 2024, San Luis Obispo Coast 98.

Pinot Noir, *Les Larmes,* Littorai, 2024, Anderson Valley 155.

Pinot Noir (100% pinot noir), Phelan Farm, 2024, San Luis Obispo 133.

Pinot Noir, *One Acre,* Littorai, 2023, Anderson Valley 223.

Pinot Noir, *Hirsch Vineyards,* Littorai, 2023, Sonoma Coast 221.

*Moon Dog,* Hiyu, 2019, Columbia Gorge 281.

-well, well, well...this is going to be a roller coaster, literally on your palate and absolutely on your brain
-a combo a 30 different heirloom clones of pinot noir (90%) + pinot gris, pinot blanc, pinot chardonnay, aligoté (10%)
-the pinot noir is actually pinot fin, a pre-industrial clone of the grape that was brought to California / the bunches have tiny clusters, a very diverse shape of berries, berries that never touch, and the vine is very low yielding
-the vineyard is composed of sandy loam and basalt and is in the shape of an amphitheatre, capturing mucho amounts of sunlight
-the grape bunches...it is a co-ferment...are trod by food and then begins a 2-week maceration / fermentation in an open-top wood fermenter / once fermentation is complete, next stop is an olde wooden press followed by 2 years of ageing on fine lees in olde oak
-as Nate Ready & China Tresemer state themselves, this wine potentially harkens back to how a 15th century Cistercian might have made wine in Burgundy (and yes, there is NO added sulphur).

Pinot Noir, *Mimi's Mind,* Lingua Franca, 2018, Eola – Amity Hills 194.

Pinot Noir, *Estate,* DuMol, 2013, Russian River Valley 124.

Pinot Noir, *Louise Vineyard,* Cristom, 2010, Willamette Valley 185.

Pinot Noir, *McDougall Ranch,* Kutch, 2010, Sonoma Coast 179.

Pinot Noir, *Mills Vineyard,* Calera, 2008, Mt. Harlan 255.

Pinot Noir, Dehlinger, 2008, Russian River Valley 138.

Pinot Noir, *Mills Vineyard,* Calera, 2007, Mt. Harlan 275.

Pinot Noir, *Winery Hill,* Domaine Serene, 2004, Willamette Valley 181.

Pinot Noir, *High Plains,* Dehlinger, 2000, Russian River Valley 147.

Pinot Noir, *Reserve,* Rex Hill, 1998, Oregon – this was made by Lynn Penner Ash 108.

Pinot Noir, *Reserve,* Rex Hill, 1997, Oregon – this was made by Lynn Penner Ash 110.

Pinot Noir, *Reserve,* Rex Hill, 1996, Oregon – this was made by Lynn Penner Ash 112.

Pinot Noir, *Reserve,* Broadley Vineyards, 1995 89.

wine is terroir®




## AMERICA... the land of the free and the home of wine

Marquette, *Damejeanne,* La Garagista, 2022, Champlain Valley 87.

Aglianico, *Uplift Vineyard,* Lightsome, 2024, Texas Hill Country 85.

Gamay, *Alisos Canyon,* Amevive, 2025, Santa Barbara 72.

Syrah, *Bassi Vineyard,* Scar of the Sea, 2024, San Luis Obispo Coast 95.

Syrah, *Clary Ranch,* Arnot-Roberts, 2022, Petaluma Gap 144.

*Orion,* Sean H. Thackrey, 1998, California 250.

Merlot, *Seven Hills Vineyard,* L'Ecole N° 41, 1999, Walla Walla Valley 161.




## THE O.G. HISTORY of CALIFORNIA WINE

*Le Cigare Volant,* Bonny Doon Vineyards, 2004, California 189.

-12% mourvèdre, 38% grenache, 35% syrah, 7% cinsault, 8% carignane

*Le Cigare Volant,* Bonny Doon Vineyards, 2003, California 199.

-35% mourvèdre, 26% grenache, 32% syrah, 7% cinsault

*Le Cigare Volant,* Bonny Doon Vineyards, 2001, California 217.

-27% mourvèdre, 34% grenache, 33% syrah, 2% viognier, 2% cinsault, 2% carignan

wine is terroir®




## AMERICAN CABERNET... Steven Spurrier, we owe you big time!

*Affinity,* Robert Craig, 2021, Napa Valley 140.
-75% cabernet sauvignon, 18% merlot, 4% malbec, 3% petit verdot

*Claret,* White Rock, 2020, Napa Valley 140.
-80% cabernet sauvignon, 10% merlot, 6% cabernet franc, 4% petit verdot

Cabernet Sauvignon, *Gravelly Meadow,* Diamond Creek, 1999, Napa Valley 888.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Long Vineyards, 1997, Napa Valley 147.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Ric Forman, 1993, Napa Valley 540.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Dunn Vineyards, 1993, Napa Valley 575.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Von Strasser, 1992, Napa Valley --3000ml *aka* JEROBOAM-- 400.

Cabernet Sauvignon, *Eisele Vineyard,* Araujo, 1992, Napa Valley 800.

## NAPA VALLEY CABERNET... as it tasted when i started drinking wine

Cabernet Sauvignon, *Beau Tour,* Beaulieu, 1978, Napa Valley 260.

Cabernet Sauvignon, Inglenook, 1967, Napa Valley 450.




## THE HOLY CRAP of CALIFORNIA WINE

*Rocks And Gravel, Unti Vineyard,* Edmunds St. John, 2014, Dry Creek Valley 210.
-43% mourvèdre, 43% grenache, 14% syrah

*Syrah, Barsotti Ranch,* Edmunds St. John, 2014, El Dorado County 235.

*Syrah, North Canyon Road,* Edmunds St. John, 2013, El Dorado County 219.
-69% Fenaughty Vineyard, 31% Barsotti Ranch

*Syrah, Fenaughty Vineyard,* Edmunds St. John, 2011, El Dorado County 257.

*Rocks And Gravel,* Edmunds St. John, 2005, Dry Creek Valley 207.
-43% mourvèdre, 43% grenache, 14% syrah

*Syrah, Durell Vineyard,* Edmunds St. John, 1992, 57% Sonoma Valley, 43% Carneros 497.