



KERMIT LYNCH
WINE MERCHANT

1605 SAN PABLO AVE.
BERKELEY, CA 94702-1317
510 • 524-1524
FAX 510 • 528-7026
WWW.KERMITLYNCH.COM

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 11882

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- **NEW ARRIVALS**
- **CORSICAN SAMPLER**
- **2009 WHITE BURGUNDY P-A**

OPEN • TUESDAY–SATURDAY 11 A.M. TO 6 P.M. CLOSED • SUNDAY & MONDAY

MARCH 2011

Steve Waters just returned from a two-week tasting trip in France. The following two pages contain some of his firsthand observations.

— PRE-ARRIVAL OFFER —

DOMAINE DE CHERISEY

AS WE DROVE up the hill to visit Domaine Comtesse Bernard de Cherisey in the hamlet of Blagny, several vigneron were busy pruning their vines and burning the cuttings in their *brouette à sarments*. On a cold, dreary January day in Burgundy, it was uplifting to see billowing smoke and hunched-over forms taking meticulous care within the orderly rows of vines.

This year marks the bicentennial for Domaine de Cherisey, and the 2009 vintage we have here for you is cause for celebration. During my tasting with winemaker Laurent Martelet, he beamed with pride as he described his '09s and their distinct characteristics. Purity and quality are of the utmost importance to Laurent, and he emphasized that the domaine never chaptalizes or acidifies its wines. Pristine, natural Chardonnay is at its finest here.

Vintage 2009 was a spectacular one that blessed the region with ideal conditions and a very healthy crop. A mix of all five wines, starting with the younger-vine, higher-altitude Puligny-Montrachet La Garenne to the powerhouse Meursault-Blagny and the rare and exciting ancient-vine Blagny *Rouge*, will provide you with a tasting experience that illuminates the exuberance of youth and the wisdom, minerality, and old-vine *terroir* of classic Burgundy.

PER CASE

2009 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU "LA GARENNE"	\$798.00
2009 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU "LES CHALUMEAUX". . .	828.00
2009 PULIGNY-MONTRACHET 1ER CRU "HAMEAU DE BLAGNY"	828.00
2009 MEURSAULT-BLAGNY 1ER CRU "LA GENELOTTE"	828.00
2009 BLAGNY ROUGE 1ER CRU "LA GENELOTTE".	579.00

*Pre-arrival terms: Half-payment due with order;
balance due upon arrival.*

PRE-ARRIVAL NOTICE

A reminder to all our clients: Many of our allocated wines are sold on a pre-arrival basis. Due to increasing demand and a lack of corresponding increases in supply, we often sell out of pre-arrival wines before we are able to offer them in our newsletter, or within a day or two of publishing our newsletter. Please call us if you are interested in putting your name on an allocation list for our pre-arrival wines, including our 2009 Burgundies. As always, we will do our best to accommodate your wish list.

NEW ARRIVALS

2009 FLEURIE “LES MORIERS” DOMAINE CHIGNARD

With a stunning view of Mont Blanc off in the distance, we arrived in Fleurie for our first tasting in the Beaujolais. Not only did we have the best locally produced charcuterie of the entire trip, but the 2009 Domaine Chignard Fleurie was breathtakingly delicious as well. This visit was *La Vieille France* in a nutshell for me: freshly made sausage and aged goat cheese washed down with the perfectly chilled 2009 Fleurie that was simply a joy to drink. Close to the border with Moulin-à-Vent, the Chignard’s Fleurie also has a firm structure, so lay some bottles down and see how well *grand cru* Beaujolais ages.

\$26.00 PER BOTTLE **\$280.80** PER CASE

2007 MONTAGNE-SAINT-ÉMILION CHÂTEAU TOUR BAYARD

KLWM has an excellent selection of great-value, high-quality red Bordeaux. Château Tour Bayard is our latest acquisition, and the 2007 Montagne-Saint-Émilion is one of the best bang-for-your-buck wines you’ll find in our store. A blend of mostly Merlot with Cabernet Franc and a splash of Malbec, this wine drinks well young and will age beautifully. For such a reasonable price, cellaring this wine to gain more nuanced aromas and complexity is an exercise in delayed gratification well worth your time.

\$19.95 PER BOTTLE **\$215.46** PER CASE

2009 CÔTES-DU-RHÔNE “POURPRE” MAXIME-FRANÇOIS LAURENT

I looked down and noticed all the wine blotches on the tasting-room floor as Maxime Laurent poured another selection. The color and saturation of the 2009 Côtes-du-Rhone Pourpre easily contributed to this artful ensemble. Jackson Pollock would have been impressed! Deep Purple would be a good name for this wine. Pure Grenache from forty-, fifty-, and eighty-year-old vines, Pourpre has a deep core of dark, penetrating fruit with surprising freshness.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE **\$237.60** PER CASE

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

by Lori Varsames

2009 CHIGNIN-BERGERON “LES TERRASSES” A. & M. QUENARD

You may recognize the Bergeron grape by its more well-known alias, Roussanne. Far from the vineyards of the South, the Quenards’ steep Alpine terraces of the Savoie offer one of the loveliest versions of the grape. In fact, it’s spectacular. Steeped with a mouthwatering elegance from its limestone minerals, its juiciness knows no bounds. This white shows well with everything from fish to poultry, and I can’t help but fantasize it served alongside a rich potato gratin.

\$29.00 PER BOTTLE **\$313.20** PER CASE

2009 VOUVRAY “LA CUVÉE DES FONDRAUX” CHAMPALOU

Didier and Catherine Champalou consistently impress with their ability to show the incredible potential of Chenin Blanc in many wide-ranging incarnations. Cuvée des Fondraux is their *demi-sec*—a graceful off-dry white that’s both sumptuous and stony. The captivating aromas of mushrooms might draw your nose back into the glass, but the surprising mouthful of juicy pears in each sip with that fall-off-the-tree ripeness could have you reaching for another pour. Bright and clean at the finish, the Fondraux proves itself to be the best of all worlds.

\$19.95 PER BOTTLE **\$215.46** PER CASE

2008 RIESLING “MUENCHBERG” GRAND CRU DOMAINE OSTERTAG

Biodynamic prophet André Ostertag conjures a tasty complexity like no other in this fine Alsatian Riesling; it has everything—a bold cornucopian nose, a restrained viscosity that lacks vulgarity, and a stony finish thanks to the pink sandstone of the local Vosges Mountains where these vines are planted. Don’t be fooled by the name “Muenchberg” (*Monk’s Mountain*): this white is anything but austere!

\$59.00 PER BOTTLE **\$637.20** PER CASE



**2007 JURANÇON “LES CASTERASSES” MOELLEUX
DOMAINE BRU-BACHÉ**

Claude Loustalot must spin gold to create this fine nectar from the Pyrénées. Earthy aromas of forest floor are complemented by hints of candied orange peels, ripe apricots, and golden raisins. Subtle tannins offer a provocative finish to this bacchanalian elixir, and it lingers on the tongue *forever*. Whether you enjoy this late-harvest *moelleux* with dessert, a plate of strong cheeses, or a good book by a cozy fire, the price alone is intoxicating.

\$14.95 PER TENTH \$322.92 PER CASE

**2009 BOURGUEIL “AVIS DE VIN FORT”
CLAIRET • CATHERINE & PIERRE BRETON**

This is not your Mama’s Bourgueil. This exciting first release is putting a new spin on the clarets of yesteryear—it’s the Bretons’ own touch where freshness is the key component. Lighter than a fully macerated Cabernet Franc and darker than a rosé, their 2009 Clairet almost tastes like it has been infused with pomegranates, raspberries, and cherries. *Mmm!* With its fresh acidity, Cab Franc’s signature brambly tannins, and a slight chill, you can pair it with almost anything. It’s as delicious as it is unique.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE \$237.60 PER CASE

**2009 CHIGNIN “MONDEUSE VIEILLES VIGNES”
A. & M. QUENARD**

Those Savoyards know how to keep the mystique alive! The Mondeuse grape might be more commonly known by its Italian name, Refosco, but in the hands of the Quenard family, these seventy-year-old vines have a little more flash in their dance than their Italian brethren. The clay and limestone *terroir* shows its moves from the get-go, opening to a palate of fresh raspberries and fragrant violets. The generous 2009 vintage softens the trademark thistle-like tannins ever so slightly, making this a wine of exceptional character and finesse.

\$27.00 PER BOTTLE \$291.60 PER CASE

KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT—TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All wines purchased from Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant are deemed sold in California and title passes to the buyer in California. We make no representation relative to the customer's right to import wine into his/her state. In placing an order, the customer represents to Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant that he/she is at least 21 years of age and the person to whom delivery will be made is at least 21 years old.

BURGUNDY

by Delia Dent

AN ENTRY-LEVEL WINE is to the vigneron what roast chicken is to the chef: just about anyone can throw something together, but only a skilled hand can make something special of it. The wines below may not carry fancy appellations, but they are delicious proof that we work with some very talented producers.

2009 BOUZERON DOMAINE A. & P. DE VILLAINÉ

This wine shows what an underdog can do when given a fair chance: Aligoté is widely considered a simple grape with nothing but acidity to offer, but here in the *terroir* of Bouzeron it gains dimension and nuance. The complex nose combines light lemon and grassy aromas with a deeper note of tropical fruit. Hints of orange blossoms linger over the palate, where the slightly unctuous mouthfeel and delicate minerality complement the grape's signature zippy acidity.

I work in the KLWM Beaune office. Luckily, the Villaines provide a steady supply of their Bouzeron to local restaurants, so when I go out with friends it is one of our regular go-to wines for sure quality and value.

\$26.00 PER BOTTLE **\$280.80** PER CASE

2009 BOURGOGNE CHARDONNAY LA SOEUR CADETTE

If De Villaine's Bouzeron is a staple for nights out with friends, the Soeur Cadette (which I don't see in restaurants here) is the equivalent when we stay in. Subtle flavors of straw and butterscotch. The moderate body and bright acidity make this classic Chardonnay a great all-purpose wine when your hosts haven't announced the menu ahead of time. I am also rediscovering as I write just how well it whets the appetite as an *apéritif* . . .

\$18.95 PER BOTTLE **\$204.66** PER CASE

2009 BOURGOGNE "EN MONTRE CUL" DOMAINE RÉGIS BOUVIER

Régis Bouvier's Bourgogne *Rouge* is from the "En Montre Cul" vineyard at the very northern tip of the Côte d'Or, one of just four *lieux-dits* that may be added to the regional appellation. Juicy raspberry dominates the palate, while a leafy note and a hint of cinnamon add depth and vitality. The tannins are firm but

subtle. Would it be repetitive to mention that I keep this one on hand in my personal cellar? Montre Cul sports a pretty cool label, too.

\$26.00 PER BOTTLE **\$280.80** PER CASE

2008 BOURGOGNE ROUGE
DOMAINE LUCIEN BOILLOT

Boillot's basic Bourgogne is a blend of fruit from a parcel in Gevrey-Chambertin, which provides structure, and a vineyard in Volnay, for elegance. The nose is surprisingly vibrant and fruity for a Pinot Noir, but one sip clears up any doubts that it is a traditional Burgundy. A note of Chambord softens the bright, tangy cherry fruit on the palate. Its great finesse, delicate mouthfeel, and dignified tannins give a taste of what its big brothers offer. Intense flavors and keen acidity make this a very good food wine.

\$28.00 PER BOTTLE **\$302.40** PER CASE

2009 BOURGOGNE CÔTE CHALONNAISE
"LA FORTUNE" • DOMAINE A. & P. DE VILLAINÉ

Just stick your nose in the glass and breathe. Fruit and earth. (Mostly earth.) Surprisingly structured, with a serious leathery note brooding in the background, but still approachable and juicy. The fine, firm tannins and bright acidity integrate beautifully if you let the wine breathe for an hour or two before serving. Like all of the De Villaine wines, La Fortune has an unmistakable *goût de terroir*.

\$32.00 PER BOTTLE **\$345.60** PER CASE



© Gail Skoff

Boillot's cellar with spittoon

THE KLWM CORSICAN SAMPLER

by Dixon Brooke

WE'VE GOTTEN PRETTY DEEP into Corsica these days. I think the history is probably that Kermit went there on vacation many years ago and fell in love with the rugged beauty of the island itself. Naturally, once there, he started eating and drinking. That focused his attention on the wines. Then he probably said to himself, "If I can develop a few properties over here, I can come back every year *on business*." The decision was made even easier by the spectacular and unique qualities of the wines he found, notably from Patrimonio, but also from the Cap Corse, Calvi, and farther south in Ajaccio. The adventure continues, and we've somehow succeeded in convincing more and more Corsican growers—who will rarely even sell to *cavistes* in mainland France—to sell to us for the United States. It helps to have a man of Corsican descent, Chris Santini, running our European office.

We offer an exciting portfolio of five very diverse producers. Our new domaine in Ajaccio, Comte Abbattucci, is currently sold out, but expect a fresh offer from them in the early spring. We've assembled what may be a wine business FIRST, an entire mixed case of the diverse wines of Corsica from four of its top growers. There are reds, whites, rosés, and even one dessert wine, from a myriad of *terroirs* and personalities: a tour of the island in the bottle. This is truly the next best thing to visiting Corsica yourself, a whole lot less expensive, and an extremely rare treat anywhere outside of the island.

PER BOTTLE

2009 VIN DE PAYS DE L'ÎLE DE BEAUTÉ ROSÉ • GIOIELLI	\$28.00
2009 COTEAUX DU CAP CORSE BLANC • GIOIELLI	28.00
2009 PATRIMONIO ROSÉ • A. ARENA	29.00
2009 PATRIMONIO "HAUT DE CARCO" BLANC • A. ARENA	38.00
2007 PATRIMONIO "MORTA MAIO" ROUGE • A. ARENA	36.00
2007 PATRIMONIO "CARCO" ROUGE • A. ARENA	36.00
2009 MUSCAT DU CAP CORSE • A. ARENA	42.00
2009 CALVI BLANC "E PROVE" • MAESTRACCI	18.00
2007 CALVI ROUGE "E PROVE" • MAESTRACCI	19.95
2008 VIN DE PAYS BLANC • YVES LECCIA	26.00
2009 VIN DE PAYS ROUGE • YVES LECCIA	24.00
2008 PATRIMONIO ROUGE • YVES LECCIA	32.00

Normally \$356.95

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE **\$249**

A 30% discount
