

# Decant

Hello from Decant,

## Felton Road

After a superb tasting on Monday night with Blair Walter we have some remnants of Felton's new release 2009 wines.

Blair was very positive about the 09 vintage, rating it among the best they've had, and the wines did nothing to contradict this, all showing very well. A definite 'house style' emerging through the Pinots, people with earlier vintages in their cellar will be pleased to hear that the '07, '04 and '03 Block 3's that were tasted are all very much alive and showing well. One of the surprises was how fresh the 2003 Block 2 Chardonnay was – we have all had disappointments with older NZ chardonnays, but this still has plenty of time on it's side.

Worthy receivers (along with Ata Rangi) of the award 'Tipuranga Teitei o Aotearoa' (translates to 'Great Growth or Grand Cru of New Zealand' Felton Road have the quality, consistency and winemaking philosophy that will see them continue to be the benchmark that all New Zealand wineries aspire to.

Riesling 2009 @ \$30.00

'Elms' Chardonnay 2009 @ \$26.99

'Bannockburn' Chardonnay 2009 @ \$33.99

'Bannockburn' Pinot Noir 2009 @ \$52.99

'Cornish Point' Pinot Noir 2009 @ \$59.99

'Block 3' Pinot Noir 2009 @ \$80.00

\*\*please note all wines are very limited

## Pinot Noir

### Value packed Pinot:

#### **Petit Clos Pinot Noir 2008 by Clos Henri (Marlborough) @ \$21.99**

very much in the understated style of it's big brother from Clos Henri, this is a great intro label Pinot with enough going on to make it perfect with light fare.

#### **Explorer Pinot Noir 2008 by Surveyor Thomson (Central Otago) @ \$22.99**

winemaker Dean Shaw has put together a Pinot that isn't obviously from Central at first taste. Less of the primary fruit and a bit drier – let's call it complex.

#### **Crater Rim 'Bendigo Estate' Pinot Noir 2008 (Central Otago) @ \$21.99**

from the Waipara team at Crater Rim, this is a bit more obvious as far as Central Pinot goes. Big ripe cherry and plums in a lush, drink me now style.

#### **Petter Evans Waipara Pinot Noir 2006 @ \$24.99**

A follow on from the super 2004 . Along the same lines – more complexity and flavours than most other Pinots at higher prices! With bottle age being a definite advantage, this deserves a roast duck dinner!

## **House of Ball 'The Merger' 2009 (Waipara) @ \$25.99**

don't tell anyone, but this isn't actually Pinot Noir. A blend of Tempranillo (yes) and Pinotage, this has all the Waipara Pinot hallmarks – plum, tamarillos and dark cherries, with a touch of pepper and just a hint of something else. Worth a crack.

**Other Pinots of interest...**

## **Escarpment Vineyards – Larry McKenna**

**Pinot Noir 2008 @ \$52.00.**

**2008 Single Vineyards 'Kiwa', 'Pahi', and 'Te Rehua' all @ \$69.00each**

**2008 'Kupe' @ \$88.00**

## **Craggy Range 2008 'Aroha' Pinot Noir (Martinborough) @ \$99.00**

**and still more.....**

**A.D.Fines 2003 Pinot Noir (Penedes, Spain) @ \$99.99**

**Arden 2008 Pinot Noir (Waikari) @ \$41.00**

**Anne Gros Bourgogne 2007 @ \$56.00**

**Bachelet Bourgogne 06/07 @ \$51.00**

**Fromm 'Clayvin' 2005 (Marlborough) @ \$62.00**

**Fromm Vineyards 2005 (Marlborough) @ \$65.00**

**and while we're on Pinot Noir.....**

## **Gevrey Chambertin**

One of the better known Burgundian towns and home of 8 Grand Crus – including the famous Chambertin as well as many other wines of exceptional quality.

It's praises have long been celebrated – Camille Rodier wrote of Chambertin: “This wine possesses in the highest degree all the qualities that characterise a perfect wine – body, colour, bouquet and finesse”

Others, more fancifully, have compared Chambertin to the symphonies of Beethoven, particularly the Fifth. Alexandre Dumas claimed the future never looked so rosy as through a glass of Chambertin.

We have certainly the largest range of Burgundy in the South Island –with Gevrey Chambertin being an exceptionally strong suit.

A small sample:

**Bachelet 'Vieilles Vignes' Gevrey Chambertin 2007 @ \$99.**

**Fourrier 'Vieilles Vignes' Gevrey Chambertin 06/07 @ \$86.**

**Geantet-Pansiot Gevrey Chambertin 2005 @ \$105.**

**Maume 'En Pallud' Gevrey Chambertin 2007 @ \$86.**

**Faiveley 'Cazetieres' Gevrey Chambertin 1er Cru 2002 @ \$99.00**

**Pierre Naigeon Gevrey Chambertin 'Lavaux Saint Jaques' 1er Cru 2006 @ \$113.**

**Humbert Freres Gevrey Chambertin 'Poissenot' 1er Cru 2006 @ \$151.**

**Dugat Py Gevrey Chambertin 'Couer de Roy' 2007 @ \$220.**

**Coming up, look out for indents on Montille, Drouhin-Laroze, and Clos Salomon**

# François Lamarche

## La Grande Rue

### GRAND CRU MONOPOLE

2007

This Grand Cru appellation is virtually unknown because it is incredibly small (just 1.65 hectares producing an average of 8,000 bottles a year) and is a monopoly of Domaine François Lamarche. For comparison, Echézeaux is 38 hectares with an average production of 158,000 bottles. So La Grande Rue is a rare wine indeed!

Remarkable concentration of perfectly crushed fruit with a lasting impression on the palate. Blueberry, velvet, black currant and wild forest strawberry all make an appearance. Where does this spectacular quality form from? La Grande Rue runs down the side of La Romanée, La Romanée-Conti and Romanée St Vivant.



“A 7th September harvest and lots of triage – only about 60% the number of bottles versus an ‘average’ harvest. One year in barrel and a relatively early bottling ‘to keep the fruits’. Medium cherry red colour. The red shaded cherry fruit is a little candied and slowly builds a width of understated spice notes. Plenty of volume in the mouth, and whilst offering up savoury aspects, they have a creamy coating – the flavours slowly insinuating into your palate. Really super length that has a hint of oak wedded to creamy fruit – there’s a little oak texture too, but you can see that it’s already fading.

This is a fine grand cru.”

**\$340.00**

# Upcoming Tastings

## **THE WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**with importer Martin Cahnbley**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 7.00pm**

**\$30.00 per person, bookings essential**

A look at some of the big names of South Africa, including Bouchard Finlayson, Raats, Meerlust, Kanonkop and Klein Constantia (we'll be tasting the famed Vin de Constance dessert wine from here -rrp \$83.00). Grape varieties of Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, Pinot Noir, Pinotage and bordeaux varieties made at these top wineries will show exactly where South Africa is in the international market. A night of discovery that promises to be very interesting – 11 wines in total.

## **FRENCH LESSONS**

### **Parlez-vous Français ?**

**If you like the idea of learning a language in a (very) relaxed atmosphere with occasional interruptions for wine and cheese tastings, then this is you !**

### **Learn French The Decant Way - Stage 1 :**

**Where :Decant , 61 Mandeville St , Riccarton**

**When : Tuesdays 17<sup>th</sup>,24 , 31<sup>st</sup> August and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Time :7.00pm - 9.00pm**

**Cost : \$ 90.00 per person for the 4 nights.**

**Seats per course are limited.**

**Ph : 343 1945**

**Fax : 343 1935**

**E.mail : [decant@decantwine.co.nz](mailto:decant@decantwine.co.nz)**

# **The Wines of France**

by

## **Master of Wine, Bob Campbell**

Unravel the mysteries of French wine with an entertaining lecture and tasting that will take you through eight of the country's main wine regions. Bob has travelled extensively throughout France and will share his experiences in a colourful presentation illustrated by a data projector and accompanied by at least 12 classic wines. This is a great opportunity for those who want to enrich their understanding of French wine, prepare themselves for a trip through France or simply experience a pleasurable afternoon with a knowledgeable wine master. The presentation will be supported by a 46-page book on French wine. Everyone who attends will receive a certificate.

**Where: Decant, 61 Mandeville St, Riccarton**

**When: Thursday 23rd September 2010**

**6.30pm – 8.30pm**

**Cost: \$145.00**

**To Book : ph. 343 1945**

**email: [decant@decantwine.co.nz](mailto:decant@decantwine.co.nz)**