

Stephen Tanzer's



International Wine Cellar

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2002 Red Burgundies

Nuits-Saint-Georges : Deep red-ruby. Perfumed, vinous aromas of blackberry, blueberry, mocha and bitter chocolate. High-pitched and tight on the palate, with vibrant dark berry flavors. A bit youthfully tough today, but offers very good verve and finishes with firm ripe tannins. [87-90](#). (issue 113)

Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Porrets Saint-Georges : Bright ruby-red. Inviting nose combines redcurrant, menthol and nutty oak ; at once ripe and cool. Then dense, juicy and intensely flavored, with very good verve and definition. Good sappy, vibrant pinot, with lovely inner-mouth perfume. Finishes firmly tannic and a bit youthfully austere but less dry than usual, thanks to the ripeness of the year. [89-92](#). (issue 113)

Nuits Saint Georges Clos des Argillières : Good red-ruby color. Red- and blackcurrant aromas, along with chocolate and smoked meat. Sweet, bright flavors of cherry, licorice and minerals. Offers inner-mouth perfume in a way that most 2003s can't match. Finishes quite firm, thanks to sound acids and underlying minerality. Still a bit youthfully reduced. [91](#). (issue 119)

Nuits-Saint-Georges Clos Saint-Marc : (a warmer site than the Porrets Saint-Georges) : Full ruby-red. Musky, superripe aromas of redcurrant, chocolate, licorice and herbs ; reminded me of merlot. Sweet and warm in the mouth, with the lightly herbaceous character carrying through. Compared to the Porrets Saint-Georges, this sacrifices a bit of precision for sheer texture. Finishes with big, sweet, ripe tannins and excellent length. [89-91](#). (issue 113)

Nuits-Saint-Georges Les Cailles : Deep red. Complex nose melds currant, blackberry, violet pastille, licorice and animal scents. Juicy, bright, minty and fresh, with noteworthy purity of flavor. Finishes long and perfumed, with very suave tannins. This will reward a decade of patience. [92](#). (issue 119)

Chambolle Musigny : Deep red. Fresh aromas of blackberry and stone. Dense and lush, with pliant flavors of dark berries, minerals and licorice. Not hugely complex but juicy, nicely delineated and enticing. Finishes with fine, firm tannins and good length. [88](#). (issue 119)

Gevrey-Chambertin Les Cazetiers (just two barrels made ; racked just before my visit) : Ruby-red. Highly aromatic nose combines dark berries, Cuban tobacco, smoke and game. Sweet, lush and fat, especially in the context of this vineyard, showing more texture than definition today following the racking. Best now on the very long, subtle finish, which features suave, sweet tannins and excellent firming acidity. [90-92](#). (issue 113)

Vosne Romanée les Suchots : Medium-deep red. Redcurrant, cocoa powder, iron and spices on the rather old-fashioned nose. Sweet and silky in the mouth, with a tangy spice character but very good rather than outstanding intensity. The first vintage for this bottling from Bouchard. [89](#). (issue 119)

Vosne Romanée aux Reignots : Bright ruby-red. Explosive vibrant aromas of crunchy dark berries, minerals and gunflint, with a peppery lift. Sweet on entry, then classically structured and powerfully mineral in the mid-palate, with terrific intensity and verve. Wonderfully balanced, soil-inflected wine with real grand cru palate presence. Explosive finish features palate-cleansing acidity and outstanding persistence. Hervet and Prost prefer 2003 to 2002 in Suchots, but clearly favour the 2002 Reignots. [93](#). (issue 119)

Echezeaux : Good medium ruby. Captivating aromas of dark berries, tobacco and smoke. Dense, sweet and juicy, with noteworthy inner-mouth purity and energy. Hints of minerals and smoke. Seems less evolved than the Reignots despite possessing a supple texture. Long, gripping finish features very fine tannins. [91-93](#). (issue 113)

Le Chambertin : Red-ruby. Black plum, mocha, tobacco and licorice on the nose. Dense, strong and a bit youthfully inscrutable, with powerful acids and a slight greenness marking this a bit awkward to taste at this stage. There are just one and a half barrels of this stuff, and the wine was macerated with its stems in order to extend the fermentation. Extremely backward, highly concentrated wine. [91-95](#). (issue 113)

La Romanée : Deep ruby-red. Superripe yet almost magically vibrant aromas of black fruits, chocolate liqueur and mint. Hugely concentrated, powerful and thick, with fruit of steel and great class. Finishes with uncanny breadth of tannins and persistence. An obvious knockout. Like the top grand crus from Bouchard, this will benefit from six to eight years of cellaring. [94-97](#). (issue 113)

Clos Vougeot : Deep red. Aromas of redcurrant, strawberry, blood orange and tobacco. Silky on the palate, yet juicy, gripping and penetrating ; the sharply delineated berry flavours convey a strong impression of energy. Harmonious acids extend the wine's sappy fruit. This has an exhilarating sugar/acid balance and would appear to have a long evolution in bottle ahead of it. [92\(+?\)](#). (issue 119)

Bonnes Mares : Medium red. Aromas of crushed raspberry, peony, blood orange, cotton candy, and rooty, resinous underbrush. Sweet and silky in the mouth, with the wine's velvety texture coming almost as a shock after the nose. A wonderfully round, ripe, pliant wine with terrific sweetness of fruit and inner-palate energy. Finishes with superb persistence. [94](#). (issue 119)

Chambertin Clos de Bèze : Medium-deep red. Highly complex, musky nose combines ripe strawberry, iron, minerals, espresso and mocha. Ripe, concentrated and a bit reduced : thick, broad and large-scaled, with a compelling silkiness of texture. Wonderfully sweet, mouthfilling flavors of roasted strawberry, minerals and soil. Finishes with suave tannins, outstanding length and strong structure and grip. [94](#). (issue 119)