

the Culture Club!

Club Release December 2024

High Roller Club

2015 Jacquesson Extra-Brut Dizy-Terres Rouges Premier Cru
100% Pinot Noir

This is a cult following Champagne house, that is still fairly new to the Seattle market. Jacquesson is one of Champagne's most venerable houses, not only predating Krug, but giving birth to it, when in 1843 Johann-Joseph Krug left Jacquesson to form his own house. Without Jacquesson, there would be no Krug!

Plot at the foot of a gently-sloping hill facing east. Reddish-brown limestone soil of considerable depth overlaying chalky silt. Planted to Pinot Noir with 12,000 vines over 1.33 hectares in 1993. Pruned in the Cordon de Royal method.

2015 vintage - Wet and mild winter weather which continued into spring. This was followed by a period of drought and high temperatures which lasted until mid-August. The growing season finished with alternating periods of cool weather and dry, hot conditions. A crop of ripe and healthy grapes of consistent quality and beautiful balance. The wines are rich, full-bodied with great energy. Respectful soil management and plant cultivation methods with the aim of expressing plot diversity. Vinification and ageing in large wooden vats on the lees without either filtration or fining.

Bright, airy and nicely lifted. It's an especially floral, mid-weight expression of Pinot Noir. Crushed flowers, dried herbs, spice, cedar and tobacco give the 2015 a strong aromatic presence. Although a bit light, the 2015 is very nicely delineated and also avoids the assertive vegetal notes that afflict so many wines in this vintage. Bottled with no dosage. Disgorged: March, 2023. Drinking window: 2024-2034.

\$225

2018 Famille Moussé Fils Special Club, Vallee de la Marne

100% Pinot Meunier

If you have been around POP for a while, you know Carolyn's obsession with Mousse Fil. She loves Pinot Meunier, and this house is one of the leaders in 100% Pinot Meunier! When she can find their Special Club, its a no brainer to snag as much as possible. And this time, she was only able to finagle 12, so unfortunately she won't be able to get anymore.

The 2018 Brut Les Fortes Terres (100% Meunier) is a bold, explosive wine that shows a notably exuberant expression of Meunier. Ripe pear, spice, flowers and mint are nicely amplified. Even with minimal dosage (0.5 grams per liter), the 2018 is on the riper side. All this needs is more mid-palate persistence, but it is still very nicely done. Disgorged: January 11, 2023.

This Champagne has a delicate approach, with its layers unfolding gently from the glass. Initially it displays notes of wet stone, pretty flowers, and delicate fresh raspberry fruits. The palate has more tension and nerve that suggests this will take more time to open, but I love its racier feel. It is linear, though not without its fruit wrapped around its backbone of minerality and acidity. Best after 2024.

\$200

Baller Club

2021 Marguet Pere & Fils 'Shaman' Grand Cru Extra Brut Rose, Ambonnay

76% Chardonnay and 24% Pinot Noir

This is a BRAND NEW Champagne to the area! So, we are still learning this lovely lady. However, some Sommeliers I know are obsessed with this producer, so we had to try it! We fell in love with this rose.. It gave us everything we wanted. Flavor, pizazz, a punch in the face of strawberry jam, minerality and floral notes. This one is gorg and we see why a cult classic!

Benoit was born into a winegrowing family who had some incredible holdings, principally in Ambonnay. In fact, their vineyards provided the backbone for Krug's Grande Cuvee for a great many years. It was in 2005 that Benoit started to seize the reins of the estate, and by 2008 had ended the leases of his family's land, and started to produce under the Marguet name. What made the land so special - including a family parcel that was the original Clos d'Ambonnay - was not only placement, but also the fact that no chemicals were ever used, and never were any mechanical devices used for plowing or harvesting. To this day, Benoit uses his two horses, Belle and Urban, to plow the vines.

Benoit created a few different lines of cuvées with which to express his style: the Shaman and Yuman wines are expressions of the freshest of juice, without any sulfur added, and bottled at lower pressure; the white label "village" wines are expressions of the villages of Champagne, largely from purchased fruit but from vineyards where he controls the farming. Finally, the Crus are his family's historical vineyards, each a wildly different expression of their own terroir, and incredibly ageworthy.

Reg. \$85 Club \$72.25

Jacquesson “The NV Extra-Brut Cuvée No. 747

40% Pinot Noir, 40% Chardonnay & 20% Pinot Meunier

Another cult following Champagne... goes to show we are the POP Cult! Under the stewardship of the Chiquet (who we also love at POP) family in the early 2000s, the renowned “700-Series” cuvées were introduced. Each year, a unique blend captures the spirit of the vintage and is balanced with the house's reserve wines. The “700-Series” cuvées represent more than 96% of total production and are released on two occasions: initially after four years on the fine lees, and then a second time after up to nine years on the fine lees .

2019 Base. 75% of the harvest came from Ay, Dizy, Hautvillers, Champillon and 25% from Avize and Oiry. Winter was mild and dry. Spring frost struck three times and mainly caused damage to our Chardonnay vines, hence the predominance of the Pinots in this cuvee. Summer was dry with heatwaves that caused sunburn. They harvested a very high-quality crop with moderate yields from 12th to 22nd September. The wines are structured, balanced, long and complex. Respectful soil management and plant cultivation methods with the aim of expressing plot diversity. Vinification and ageing in large wooden vats on the lees without either filtration or fining. The Cuvée 700 series is all about expressing both terroir and the vintage – the wine changes with each release, rather than being a consistent house blend.

“The NV Extra-Brut Cuvée No. 747 (2019 base) marries textural richness with notable vibrancy. Lemon confit, mint, white pepper, tangerine peel and graphite lend energy throughout. All the elements are very nicely balanced. We especially admire the textural depth here. Spring frost was particularly damaging to the Chardonnay, so the blend is distinctly Pinot-leaning in this release. Dosage is 1.5 grams per liter. Disgorged: October 2023. Drinking window: 2024-2034.”

Reg. \$95 Club \$80.75

Jose Michel & Fils Special Club Extra Brut 2015, Moussy

50% Chardonnay, 50% Pinot Meunier

We can't have a December Baller Club without a Champagne Special Club!!! And this pretty lady is not to be missed! This superb Special Club represents a seamless melding between two contrasting varieties—elegant aromatic complexity with splendid finesse. You'll find floral hints (rose), hazelnut, and grilled almond in concert with crushed oyster shells, citrus notes like pomelo and orange rind (that blooms into an orange blossom note with some air), starfruit and breadfruit ('Ulu) aromas. Next, citrus leads with zesty lemon and candied green apple flavors on the palate. These relax into a deliciously generous and lush mouthfeel (while retaining excellent acidity and not at all blousy or heavy), featuring baked yellow fruit over brioche toast vibes that linger in a perfectly balanced finish.

In case you need a quick recap of what a Special Club is:

Created in 1971 the Club Trésors was the first association of wine makers in Champagne to advocate an approach to viticulture based on the utmost standards of quality. The Club is first and foremost about bringing together a group of like-minded men and women who are totally committed to the common objective of excellence. Since the creation of this pioneering association the members have strived to preserve the essence of their various terroirs and to promote the exceptional character of their wines.

Today this philosophy is more relevant than ever. The Club Trésors comprises 28 artisan wine makers, selected from the finest areas of the Champagne region, each one recognized for the quality of their work. The Club Trésors is the only organization in Champagne to select its members according to a set of unrelenting quality standards. Each wine maker must make their champagnes entirely in his, or her, own premises and cellars. Furthermore the champagne must be made exclusively from grapes harvested in his, or her, own vineyards. Each wine maker is devoted to his work and passionately protects the quality and the unique character of his own terroir. The jury of oenologists and wine professionals who select the champagnes, demand irreproachable quality as regards both the work in the vineyard and the wines. Each champagne is subject to two blind tastings (once at the still wine stage before bottling and again after 3 years ageing in bottle) by a panel of passionate and distinguished oenologists and wine makers.

A Special Club champagne may only be made in outstanding vintage years.

Only wine makers who have successfully passed these two tests are deemed worthy of putting their chosen champagne in the unique 'Special Club' bottle which may not be used by anyone except the members of the Club Trésors.

Reg. \$100 Club \$85

Players Club

AYALA Brut Majeur, Aÿ

50 to 55% Chardonnay, 30 to 40% Pinot Noir, 10 to 15% Meunier

When Edmond de AYALA founded the House in 1860, he focused on crafting a champagne with a distinct and recognizable style, known today as AYALA Brut Majeur. A pure and balanced champagne which showcases the diverse personalities of Champagne's different Terroirs. Crafted with a unique diversity of crus from Champagne's vineyard, this cuvée is a multi-cru and multi-vintage blend with Chardonnay as main grape variety. To preserve this pure style, the House brings its expertise and meticulous approach to the microvinification process, always with a minimum of intervention on wines.

Showcasing the diverse personalities of Champagne's different Terroirs, AYALA Brut Majeur unveils a great aromatic range : long-lasting aromas of citrus, white fruits and flowers. Expressive and delicate, the cuvée demonstrates a great purity, always with perfect balance between freshness and vinosity.

Reg. \$65 Club \$55.25

Jacquart Mosaïque Brut, Reims

40% Chardonnay, 35% Pinot Noir, 25% Pinot Meunier

Another new Champagne to the area, and we snagged it for you, Player!

The Mosaïque label offers an elegant rendition of our signature style, encapsulating our uncompromising selections and choices until they become self-evident. Fresh and delicate, with notes of white fruits, pear and peach, fresh apricot and white flowers with roses. Dried fruit aromas reveal it is starting to mature.

Lush, generous and creamy. Beautiful exuberance driven by white fruits and lemon zest notes on the finish.

Reg. \$65 Club \$55.25

NV Champagne José Michel Chapitre Extra Brut Pinot Meunier, Moussy

100% Pinot Meunier

“Chapitre” Pinot Meunier Brut NV The “Chapitre” Meunier non-vintage brut base vintage is 90% 2021 blended with 10% 2020 , which are kept in oak barrels. Once blended, the wine rests in 57% stainless steel and 43% oak (600-liters barrels). Dosage is 3-4g/l. With this cuvée, Antonin Michel seeks to express the essence of the Meunier grape, it's vinous fruitiness and drinkability. Notes of bing cherry, raspberry, currant, and maraschino cherry

with a lingering note of marzipan, a gentle acidity that keeps everything clean and fresh, and a lingering, chalky finish that'll immediately invite you to take another sip.

*This is a limited Champagne, so we only have a few extra's we are able to sell!

Reg. \$75 Club \$63.75

Breakfast Club

2021 Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs, California

100% Chardonnay

This is a sparkling wine I could never get into the clubs, because of the price point, even though it's one of my favorite's! However, there was a huge mistake in pricing this past week, so their mistake was YOUR benefit! Unfortunately, I won't be able to get you more bottles at this fabulous price, but I am beyond excited I could get one into your club! Normally, this wine is \$50, but I got it for \$35! If we can get any additional bottles at this price, I will 100% let club members know first! You can still purchase it at the \$50 (with 15% off), if I can't get anymore at the killer price!

Family owned and operated for over fifty years, Schramsberg Vineyards was established in 1965 by Jack and Jamie Davies who set out to make world-class, vintage-dated sparkling wine in the true méthode traditionnelle style on the property originally established in 1862 by German immigrants.

Blanc de Blancs (white from whites), made from Chardonnay, is the counterpart to the Blanc de Noirs (white from blacks), made from Pinot Noir. Blanc de Blancs was the first wine Schramsberg produced in 1965 and was America's first commercially produced Chardonnay-based brut sparkling wine. Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs gained international recognition in 1972 when then President Nixon served the wine at the historic "Toast to Peace" in Beijing, China.

"The 2021 Blanc de Blancs has lifted aromas of fresh Granny Smith apple, lemon lime and fresh baked bread, intermingled with hints of baked pineapple and toasted almonds. Its vibrant flavors of Meyer lemon and tart apple bring drive to the mid-palate, leading to a clean, palate-cleansing finish." — Winemakers Sean Thompson, Jessica Koga and Hugh Davies

Reg. \$50 Club \$42.50

2021 Château Haut-Rian Crémant de Bordeaux, France

100% Sémillon

It's hard to find a Crémant de Bordeaux that I am in love with, but I was pleasantly shocked in how much I loved this wine!!

Pauline Lapierre started working in Paris and South-East Asia. She went back to Bordeaux in 2015 to study oenology and to take over the family estate of 80ha in the young and dynamic village of Rians.

Handpicked in small boxes and gentle press. Alcoholic fermentation at low temperature and aged on lees for 12 months. Pale gold color, the bubble is fine. Notes of white flowers on the nose and marked but delicate acidity on the palate. The wine is fresh and light.

Reg. \$30 Club \$25.50

Jansz Premium Cuvée N/V, Tasmania

64% Chardonnay, 36% Pinot Noir

You read this right... Tasmanian bubbly!

Tasmania is renowned as Australia's home of great sparkling wines. The fruit used in this Cuvée is grown on selected, cool climate vineyards across Tasmania. To maximize blending options and complexity in the final wine, batches are kept separate during winemaking.

Secondary Fermentation takes place in the bottle and is aged on yeast lees for as long as possible. The perfect balance for our

Premium Cuvée is reached at just over two years. Sourced from selected vineyard sites across Tasmania ranging from the Pipers River and Tamar Valley regions in the North to the Coal River Valley in the South; representing the best of sparkling Tasmania.

This wine is a blend of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, sourced from Australia's home of great quality sparkling wine, Tasmania. Tasmania's cool latitude and maritime climate is ideal for producing elegant sparkling wines with powerful fruit flavors and high natural acidity.

Classical Sparkling winemaking techniques are used for this cuvee. Handpicked, gentle whole bunch pressed, cool fermentation, 100% MLF, complex assemblage and extended ageing on lees after bottle fermentation, all combine to produce a stylish and complex wine.

Very pale gold in color, with a persistent fine mousse. The nose displays aromas of honeysuckle, citrus zest and fresh strawberries from the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir fruit. Extended time on lees during secondary fermentation contributes more complex aromas of nougat and roasted nuts. The palate is well balanced with delicate fruit flavor, fine creamy texture and a refreshing natural acid drive. The finish is dry and fresh with lingering flavors of citrus and nougat.

Reg. \$30 Club \$25.59

Zardetto Prosecco Brut N/V, Italy

100% Glera

This is a perfect bubbly to upgrade your mimosa's Christmas morning. Not your typical prosecco, its a prosecco on steroids!

Made from Glera grapes sourced from various vineyards in the hilly part of the DOC region, northeast of Conegliano. The first fermentation takes place after a brief maceration, which enhances the typical citrus and tropical aromas of the Glera grapes. These intense, fruity aromas are preserved through the second fermentation, which takes place in large temperature controlled stainless steel containers. Lemon-yellow in color with elegant, refined bubbles that form a hearty white froth. Aromas of white flowers, apricot and herbs create a delicately soft bouquet. The palate is comprised of citrus, orange blossoms and stone fruits. Fresh citrus and floral notes linger on the finish.

It's an ideal aperitif and the perfect choice for celebrations large and small. Not to mention, an excellent partner in sparkling cocktails. Zesty and stylish, Zardetto Prosecco is the quintessential sparkling aperitif, and can be served alongside a wide array of foods.

Reg. \$25 Club \$21.25

POP (Yeah You Know Me)

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