



VALKYRIE

SELECTIONS

BURGUNDY REVIEWS
JAMES SUCKLING
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MAISON PASCAL CLEMENT

Pascal Clement is located in the village of Savigny-les-Beaune - a family of growers, where his father founded the Maison in 1950. After over 20 years as a grower and winemaker in the region (including that time alongside Jean-Francois Coche), he launched his own micro-négociant project in 2012. The wines live in a stunning building built in 1850 with a splendid arched cellar, housing 200 barrels.



Pascal Clement
GRAND VIN DE BOURGOGNE

Pascal works with friends across several appellations, personally selecting and farming the plots he chooses to work with, based on his philosophy that the vine must be nourished by its soil, its geology, its exposure and its micro-climate to express true terroir with freshness, minerality, and complexity. Many of these plots are farmed organically and, in some cases, biodynamically.

Pascal's winemaking philosophy is very non-interventional. All the wines are fermented with native yeasts and undergo malolactic naturally (depending on vintage). In 2016, a "salty" year, the whites all completed malolactic while in 2015, Pascal chose to halt malolactic. The wines rest in barrel on their lees with no stirring/ bâtonnage. For reds, Pascal leans towards Rousseau barrels and whites are in Damy, Billon, and François Frères. Recently, Pascal started moving to larger 456L casks for aging, finding better balance of wood to wine compared to the 225L Burgundy barrels he had been using.

89

BOURGOGNE BLANC 2017

"Lot of fresh pears, a medium body with some juicy fruit and a rather crisp finish. Drink now."
From East-West oriented vineyards including Savigny-les-Beaune, Puligny Montrachet and Chorey-lès-Beaune on the alluvial plains of the Côte de Beaune with primarily marl limestone soils as well as some Chablis. Aged 10 months in French oak.

89

RULLY "LA CRÉE" 2017

"A fresh and crisp Rully that's got some nice pears, but it's a little simple. Nice, crisp finish with some depth and good harmony. Drink now."
La Créée is a gentle slope in the middle of the Appellation facing South East on a brown clay soil, which is distinguished by its marked stoniness. Because it is stonier, wines from La Créée tend to be more mineral driven than some of the neighboring vineyards. Aged 12 months in French oak.



90

RULLY 1^{er} CRU “RABOURCÉ” 2017

“Nice citrus aromas and some custard character from lees contact and a corresponding creaminess adds a bit of weight to the otherwise rather light palate. Good harmony of fruit and a hint of oak. Decent length. Drink now.”

Rabource is located on a very steep clay and limestone slope facing South-East – just above the highly regarded Cloux vineyards and just below the woods. It is typically one of the first Rully vineyards to ripen and can produce a wine of great depth and power. Aged 12 months in French oak.

91

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE DESSUS LES VERMOTS 2017

“Very nice, lemon and lemon-balm nose. Medium-bodied but rather elegant with nice, smoky character and a long, crisp mineral finish. A very good wine for seafood. Drink or hold.”

Dessus les Vermots is one of the 29 Lieux-Dits in Savigny - a steep slope with hard clay-limestone soil. Aged 12 months in French oak.

91

SAINT-AUBIN 1^{er} CRU “LE CHARMOIS” 2016

“A wide spectrum of fruit aromas from apples through citrus to a hint of pineapple, the touch of vanilla blending in nicely. Lots of grapefruit on the palate at the moment, but this is still young and needs some time in bottle. Nice, long finish in which the chalky and oaky elements are nicely interwoven. Drink or hold.”

Le Charmois is an east facing vineyard that lies adjacent to the premier crus of Chassagne-Montrachet. This eastern exposure allows for more sun hours which contribute to the fuller body style wine. Limestone and clay soil at 290 meters altitude. Aged 16 months in French oak.

90

MEURSAULT 2016

“This delivers a ripe array of white-peach and green-mango aromas with a fleshy, mouthwatering palate that has a sturdy, bold finish. Drink across the next six years.”

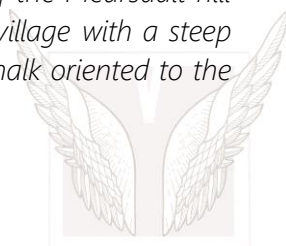
Along the Côte de Beaune, as red wine areas fold in to white, lies Meursault on classic prehistoric, limestone soils. Though the village does not have any Grand Cru vineyards, many of its Premier Crus are considered some of the best white wines of Burgundy. Here, Pascal especially draws in from his experience at Coche-Dury (which is based in Meursault). Marly limestone soils at 260 meters elevation oriented East-West. Aged 14 months in French oak.

91

MEURSAULT LES NARVAUX 2016

“Aromas of praline and peach sorbet lead to a palate that has biscuity, praline flavors and delivers some tension at the finish. Drink or hold.”

The Les Narvaux lieu-dit lies just above Les Genevrières (Premier Cru) at the top of the Meursault hill towards the west. At 900 feet elevation, it is one of the highest vineyards in the village with a steep slope. The vines average 45 years old on shallow clay limestone soils with some chalk oriented to the south-east. Aged 14 months in French oak.



92

MEURSAULT 1^{er} CRU “LES CHARMES” 2016

“A gently flinty nose with chalky aromas of green mangoes, young peaches and grapefruit. The palate has a vibrant, taut and mouthwateringly fresh palate with great depth and drive. Drink or hold.”

The Charmes vineyard is located on a sunny, subtle slope in the southern part of Meursault, sitting just below Les Perrieres. Limestone and clay soils that tend to be a bit richer and thicker than those of the neighboring vineyards because of its lower position on the slope. As such, wines from Les Charmes are often weightier. Aged 16 months in French oak.

88

BOURGOGNE ROUGE 2017

“An attractive and very gently flinty nose with neat red fruit that follows to the palate. Red cherries and soft, smooth tannins here. Drink now.”

From South oriented vineyards across the Côte de Beaune, often close (10-100 meters) from Village and 1^{er} Cru classified plots. Located on piedmont slopes, in limestone areas, with clay and marl nuances, stony if not rocky, well-drained and where water rarely stagnates. Aged 10 months in French oak.

89

SAVIGNY-LES-BEAUNE 1ER CRU “LES SERPENTIÈRES” 2015

“This is a riper style with violet flowers and a strong array of cherries and plums, cast amid sturdy tannins. Drink now.”

On the northern bank in the direction of Pernand-Vergelesses are where the finest examples of Savigny-les-Beaune invariably hail from. “Serpentières” is generally considered as the finest vineyard in Savigny, with its full southern exposure and heavy, chalky, mineral-rich soils. Aged 18 months in French oak.

91

GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN 2016

“There’s a swathe of vanilla here with an array of sous-bois and ripe red-cherry aromas that lead to a firmish palate with plenty of grippy tannins and tart red-fruit flavors.”

The Gevrey-Chambertin is a blend of village level vineyards as well as the plot “Les Evocelles,” located high up the hill at the northwesterly-most point in Gevrey-Chambertin, surrounded by Premier Cru vineyards (Champeaux and Combe aux Moines). Some speculate it was overlooked for classification due to its elevation at 400 meters. Vines face south/southeast on shallow calcerous soils. Aged 18 months in French oak.

92

VOSNE-ROMANÉE 2016

“This has a very fresh and gently reductive edge to the vibrant red-fruit and wild-herb accents. The palate has a delicious array of very vibrant, rich fruit with assertive tannins and a dense, chewy finish. Needs a rest. Try from 2022.”

Known as ‘the pearl of the Côte,’ Vosne-Romanée is home to the most exalted Grand Cru vineyards in all of Burgundy. Outside of those hallowed vineyards, the AOC includes 200 hectares of vineyards that nestle between Nuits St.Georges and Flagey-Echézeaux. Red-brown clay soils that are interspersed with limestone and some pebbles. Aged 18 months in French oak.

