

February Wine Club Pick up Party



Explorers Club

Centopassi 2018 "Giato," Sicily, Italy

The story of Centopassi winery is a very interesting one indeed. The winery takes its name from a famous Italian anti-Mafia film made in 2000 titled "I Cento Passi," or "The Hundred Steps," that tells the true story of a young activist in the 1970's who used a pirate radio program to satirize mafia corruption in Sicily and was subsequently found dead from an "accidental explosion." Centopassi is a winemaking coop formed from vineyard land that the Sicilian government confiscated from the mafia and gave to the Libera Terra, or "Free Earth," movement to farm.

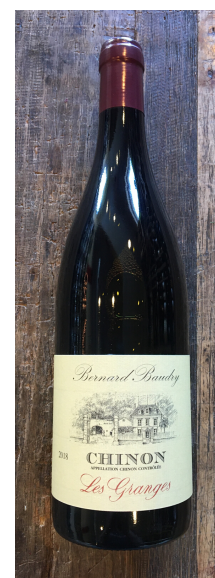
Their Giato blend is composed of 60% Grillo and 40% Catarratto, two varietals that are native to Sicily and is bottled after about 6 months aging in stainless steel tanks on the fine lees. Bright, and lean with a rounded note of melon and golden apple, this wine finishes with sea salt minerality and refreshing acidity making it a perfect companion to any sort of Mediterranean seafood dish.



Bernard Baudry 2018 "Les Granges," Chinon, France

Formed by a father and son team, the wines of Baudry represent a classic expression of Chinon terroir. This 100% Cabernet Franc from a masterful producer in the heart of the most prized region within the Loire Valley of France is made from vineyard plots planted between 1985 and 1988. What makes this wine particularly unique is the absence of any oak aging. It is exclusively fermented and aged in cement tanks which is rare for the region and the winery in general. This concrete aging allows the wine to speak for itself without the influence of even neutral barrels to give it the opportunity to pick up the slightest trace of oak. The result is a Cabernet Franc that is fresh, dark and juicy with all the signifiers of the region while never leaning too far in any one direction. Dark red fruit, some herbaceous notes, and the signature gun flint found in the soil type of Chinon are all in unison and in a relatively juicy expression for this bottling.

Try pairing this Cab Franc with Duck dishes or herb-crusted goat cheese for a vegetarian option.



Collectors Club

Domaine Tempier 2017 "Pour Lulu," Bandol, France

Domaine Tempier is perhaps one of the most well-known wines that Kermit Lynch imports to California mainly due to its Rosé which is highly sought after every vintage. However, this is a Domaine that not only produces some of the most coveted Rosé in the world but also makes a small selection of spectacular reds that are very age-worthy and tend to fly under the radar until it is too late to buy them and they are sold out. This wine represents the 100 year anniversary of the Domain's Matriarch who is a force of nature and a representation of the joyful resilience of wine. Lulu is the convivial proprietor of Domaine Tempier, a centenarian famously quoted as saying the secret to her longevity is from never drinking water but only wine. Lulu is represented on the label of the bottle by the embossed emblem of her swing which sits under a tree on her estate where she sits each day.

This particular Cuvee is composed of 75% Mourvèdre, 14% Grenache, 9% Cinsault, and 2% Carignan from 40 plus-year-old vines aged in Oak Foudres for 18 to 20 months. While this wine might be several years old now, it will most definitely reward some patience in the cellar. Lulu's wines are as famously long-lived as she is. We suggest picking up an extra bottle of this wine before it sells out as we were only able to get about one extra case beyond our allocation for the wine club.

