

2006 Henriot Brut Millesime – Champagne

One of the finest vintages produced in years. It is fresh and creamy, with citrus and mineral notes. It is made from Grand Cru grapes exclusively. The dosage is low, 6 gm. sugar; it was disgorged six years ago, and spent a few years aging in Henriot's cellar. The 2006 is completely enjoyable now, but can age well for several more years. Henriot's 2006 is retailing in the \$100 to \$120 range. Private cellar

2015 Bera Arneis – Langhe, Italy

Arneis is the grape here, white, bright and floral, and signature of Piedmont in northwest Italy. This pretty offering displays the newly trendy grape's riper side, with a medium body and rounded, silky mouth feel, with flavours suggesting apricot, peach preserves and nuts, subtly sweet in the middle yet turning dry on the candied-fruit finish.

2010 Alsace Gewurztraminer Herrenweg Domaine Barmes Buecher – Alsace

It shows a full yellow color and it has very ripe, perfumed aromas of cinnamon, nutmeg, clove oil, rose petal and mint. It is intensely flavored, sappy and juicy, with a penetrating aromatic quality and lovely grip and sugar/acid balance to its flavors of flowers and spicy essential oils. Dense but light on its feet. All yellow fruits today – no lychee notes. Finishes with peppermint and clove notes. This fermented for a long time, according to Barmes it will be explosive early. It is flat-out a great value wine with exceptional quality.

2012 Meursault Charmes 1er Cru Francois Mikulski – Burgundy

Focused yet rich with a nice level of complexity and ripe fruit. Generous level of glycerol without being "plump". Long smooth finish in the mouth with a fine level of acidity that is necessary to compliment the richness of the foie gras and mouth-watering truffle. The is a small producer and this is a fraction of his total production hence it is not a wine marketed in outside of France.

2009 Kale Kick Ranch Home Run Cuvee – Sonoma

Syrah – 68%, Grenache – 27%, and rounds off with Viognier –5%. His wine making style is what hits the Home Run – Anderson delivers a, and I'll use his words because they are right-on, "deftly balanced, super fine grained tannins linger through the finish" SCORE! It comes across the pallet very evenly, and as it opens up the layers become more noticeable and more savory.

2011 Baer Arctos - Washington

This Cabernet Sauvignon-dominant blend is a dead-ringer for Left-Bank Bordeaux (think Calon-Segur), or Super Tuscan Cabernet (think Guidalberto). This is one serious wine. The 2011 Arctos is the perfect example of a wine that combines sexy concentration with *terroir*-driven complexity and finesse. It is a classic Bordeaux style with 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet Franc, 8% Petit Verdot_607 Cases Produced from 100% Stillwater Creek Vineyard and yield was 2.8 to 3.8 Tons per Acre. Aged in 100% French oak, 79% new Demptos, Saury, Sylvain, Taransaud oak for 22 Months.

2008 Trapet Pinot Gris Sonnenglanz - Alsace

This is an outstanding wine with a very nice complexity in the nose and a lingering finish. It has a great fruit concentration, and the fresh acidity provides it with the necessary element to achieve a very good overall balance. You can immediately feel the apricot, nectarine, peach flavor. The nose is clean and developing, showing, medium and intense aromas of ripe peaches, quince, very ripe pears, ginger and honey. The wine is also a bit sweet in the mouth with a high refreshing acidity. As on the nose, the palate shows intense flavours of ripe pears, ripe peaches, quince, ginger, and honey.

2013 Château Coutet Bordeaux - Barsac, France

Unctuous and ripe, showing mouth-filling flavors of almond cream, ginger, heather honey and apricot, this will need time to unwind fully, but when it does, expect more pineapple, maple and singed orange notes, as this has some depth and power in reserve, as well as more than enough cut for balance. A beauty in the making. Wine Spectator's #16 Wine of the Year for 2016.