



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

Wine Enthusiast

December 15, 2005

ITEM

- 420940 NV FREIXENET NV CARTA NEVADA BRUT, CAVA**
Neutral yet clean, with pineapple and lemon-lime on both the nose and palate. Nothing out of the ordinary here. It's exactly as it has been for years: bubbly, a touch sweet and satisfying. **SCORE 86**
- 420640 NV FREIXENET NV CORDON NEGRO BRUT, CAVA**
Clean and toasty, with mineral and the slightest hint of mushroom. Full and ripe in the mouth, with toasty apple flavors. Limited in depth and complexity, but full of lemon-lime. **BEST BUYS. SCORE 85**
- 423440 NV SEGURA VIUDAS NV BRUT HEREDAD RESERVA, CAVA**
Clearly more serious than average, with light apple and honey aromas that are followed nicely by lime, apple and white-pepper flavors. Rather round, with freshness and a solid mouthfeel. For cava this is fairly classy and elevated. **SCORE 88**
- 34305 2002 CLIFF LEDE CABERNET SAUVIGNON, STAG'S LEAP DISTRICT**
It was fun comparing this Cab with the winery's '02 Claret. Two more different wines couldn't be imagined. This one, with considerably more Cabernet, is harder and firmer in tannins, with and impressively ripe core of black currants. Tastes oakier, too, but can easily handle it. Drink now through 2007. **SCORE 93**
- 34304 2002 CLIFF LEDE CLARET, STAG'S LEAP DISTRICT**
It's not made in the flashy, fleshy New World style, but has an earthy, herbal flavor, with a hint of blackberry. Oak is not at all prominent in this dry, balanced wine. **SCORE 90**
- 34963 2002 BYRON NIELSON VINEYARD PINOT NOIR, SANTA MARIA VALLEY**
Where Byron's regular '03 Pinot is all about immediate gratification, this single-vineyard release, a year older, is a darker, brooding wine. Instead of red cherries, you get black ones. Cassis, too, and sauteed mushrooms with a splash of balsamic. Still there's a delicious core of mocha. It's an exquisite, silky Pinot Noir, firm and classic, and addictively drinkable. **EDITOR'S CHOICE. SCORE 94**
- 28611 2003 LIBERTY SCHOOL CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CALIFORNIA**
This is a good price for a Cab that's dry, balanced and elegant. It's obviously not a blockbuster, but the cherry, and blackberry flavors interact with oak and dried herbs makes the wine charming and even complex. **BEST BUYS. SCORE 87**

MARTIGNETTI COMPANIES Carolina Wine & Spirits · Silenus Wine Selections · Gilman Wine & Spirits

975 University Avenue, Norwood, MA 02062 800-USA-WINE



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

Wine Enthusiast

December 15, 2005

- ITEM #**
- 28843 2003 ARTEZIN ZINFANDEL, MENDOCINO/AMADOR/NAPA**
This is a new brand from Hess, and a very good wine. The winemaker calls it a field blend, meaning it may or may not be Zinfandel. It doesn't taste entirely like Zin. There are blueberries and cherries in there along with the brambly, peppery stuff. The wine is claret-style, meaning it's balanced and harmonious despite 15.5% alcohol. **BEST BUY. SCORE 90**
- 260191 2002 LEONETTI CELLAR CABERNET SAUVIGNON, WALLA WALLA**
Leonetti continues to hit the high marks it sets for itself in this, its 25th vintage. The Walla Walla Cab includes 10% Merlot and small batches of Cab Franc and Carmenere. The astonishing, classic Leonetti aromas of penetrating, ripe black fruits, cedar, coffee and chocolate are there in spades, but the overall impression is that the oak has been pulled back just a bit, or perhaps the fruit is just that much riper. Violets and lead pencil continue the stream of sensuous highlights, as the wine winds into its pungent, densely saturated finish. **SCORE 94**
- 265131 2003 LEONETTI CELLAR SANGIOVESE, WALLA WALLA**
Sharp, youthful, tart and spicy, this fresh, lively Sangio is spiced up with citrus rind and tangy berries. The blend includes 22% Syrah. **SCORE 89**
- 235051 2004 CHALEUR ESTATE BLANC, COLUMBIA VALLEY**
DeLille Cellars' Bordeaux white is consistently among the best in the country. Rich and buttery, just this side of unctuous, it is smoothly styled with lingering layers of citrus oils, stone fruits, melon and nuts. Big but not blowsy, broad yet still focused, it weaves together seamlessly, layering in flavors right through the finish. **SCORE 91**
- 39651 2003 CASA LAPOSTOLLE CUVÉE ALEXANDRE MERLOT, COLCHAGUA VALLEY**
Black as night, with snazzy scents of marzipan, bing cherry and plum. Tight as nails in the mouth, and dead serious with cherry, plum, mint and black olive flavors. Now it's rather tannic, with coffee and bitter chocolate flowing off the finish; will be better in another eight to 12 months. **EDITOR'S CHOICE. SCORE 90**
- 260231 2003 LEONETTI CELLAR MERLOT, COLUMBIA VALLEY**
Intense and concentrated, this puts to rest any ideas that Merlot is incapable of making "real wine". The flavors are smooth and chocolaty, the mouthfeel liquorous, ripe and lush. High-toned fruits and flowers slide into the mellow tannins, all resolving in a superripe, decadently rich finish. **SCORE 90**

MARTIGNETTI COMPANIES Carolina Wine & Spirits · Silenus Wine Selections · Gilman Wine & Spirits

975 University Avenue, Norwood, MA 02062 800-USA-WINE



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

Wine Spectator

December 31-January 15, 2006

ITEM

Top 100 - No. 16

- 750811 1995 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BRUT CHAMPAGNE, CHAMPAGNE**
Cellarmaster Regis Camus has been with this 154 year old Champagne house since 1994 and considers 1995 to have been a classic harvest. Warm temperatures and even precipitation in July and August meant that, despite Champagne's northern latitude, the grapes reached optimal maturity by the beginning of harvest in late September. This graceful bubbly relies on 65 percent Pinot Noir and 35 percent Chardonnay. **SCORE 95**

Top 100 - No. 32

- 48472 2001 ROSEMOUNT GSM, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**
Rosemount introduced GSM in 1994, aiming to emulate a Chateauneuf-du-Pape, and it has scored well almost every year. The 2001 is a blend of 48 percent Grenache, 45 percent Syrah and 7 percent Mourvedre from McLaren Vale, Barossa Valley and Langhorne Creek. The 2001 vintage was unusually hot, but the best wines, like the GSM, show fresh fruit flavors and chewy texture. **SCORE 93**

Top 100 - No. 37

- 262361 2002 SHAFER RELENTLESS, NAPA VALLEY**
Relentless was created as a tribute to Shafer winemaker Elias Fernandez's tenacity. Since this Syrah's introduction with the 1999 vintage, every bottling has earned at least 91 points. With the 2002, Fernandez demonstrates his blending capabilities; the wine is 80 percent Syrah and 20 percent Petite Sirah. Fernandez gets the grapes from a small ridge top estate vineyard just south of Stags Leap District. **SCORE 94**

Top Scoring Value Releases of 2005

- 31045 2004 JARDIN SAUVIGNON BLANC, STELLENBOSCH**
SCORE 90



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

Wine Spectator

December 31-January 15, 2006

ITEM

Bruce Sanderson's Recommended Champagnes

- 750721 1985 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BRUT CHAMPAGNE CHARLIE, CHAMPAGNE**
Intense and concentrated, with flavors of coffee, vanilla pastry, and candied berry and citrus. Full, lush and firm. **SCORE 96**
- 750821 1995 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BRUT BLANC DES MILLENAIRES, CHAMPAGNE**
Beginning to mellow, with coffee, pastry, honeysuckle and citrus notes melting into fine mousse. Lively acidity. **SCORE 95**
- 750811 1995 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BRUT CHAMPAGNE, CHAMPAGNE**
Intense aromas and flavors of candied berry and citrus, coffee, pastry and ginger. Balanced, focused and lively. **SCORE 95**

Smart Buys

- 28396 2003 BUEHLER CABERNET SAUVIGNON, NAPA VALLEY**
Excellent balance and purity of youthful Cabernet flavors. Rich currant, blackberry and black cherry fruit is well-defined and oak plays a supporting role, with a dash of espresso bean and hazelnut. The tannins give it firmness and depth. Terrific price, too. Best from 2006 to 2013. **SCORE 90**

Best Values

- 80051 2004 LINDEMANS SHIRAZ-CABERNET BIN 55, SOUTH EASTERN AUSTRALIA**
Bright and juicy, with blackberry and toasty oak flavors in a nice balance. Drink now. **SCORE 85**

Saveur

December 2005

Tasting Notes

- 750821 1995 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BRUT BLANC DES MILLENAIRES, CHAMPAGNE**
Like a young Mosel riesling pumped full of bubbles. Lemon, baked apple, and salty minerals on the nose; a mosel-like sweet-and-sour aspect on the palate.

MARTIGNETTI COMPANIES Carolina Wine & Spirits · Silenus Wine Selections · Gilman Wine & Spirits

975 University Avenue, Norwood, MA 02062 800-USA-WINE



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

International Wine Cellar

November-December 2005

ITEM

- 265001 2002 DELILLE CELLARS CHALEUR ESTATE RED WINE, YAKIMA**
Bright ruby-red. Currant, rose petal, licorice and nutty oak on the nose. Plump and generous; full and ripe. Comes across as rather soft, but with no shortage of underlying spine. Sweet red fruit and floral flavors are lifted by a note of fresh blackberry. Finishes with fine-grained tannins **SCORE 91**
- 265131 2003 LEONETTI CELLARS SANGIOVESE, WALLA WALLA VALLEY**
Bright, deep red. Aromatically complex nose combines plum, dried rose, tar, cedar animal fur and smoked meat. Juicy, intensely flavored and penetrating, with sappy, sharply delineated flavor of sangiovese has occasionally been criticized for its new oak component, Tuscan in style. **SCORE 92**
- 260231 2003 LEONETTI CELLARS MERLOT, COLUMBIA VALLEY**
Deep ruby-red. Knockout nose combines dark cherry, black plum, licorice, graphite, chocolate and mint, all lifted by a floral topnote. Sweet on entry, then spicy and firm in the middle, with flavors of black fruits, mint and licorice. Dense without being weighty; not a fat or thick wine but offers lovely lift. Finishes with a fine dusting of tannins. **SCORE 90**
- 57980 NV BILLECART SALMON NV BRUT RESERVE**
Dark red-garnet in color, with aromas of meat, mineral and plum. I like this rose for its full body and dark berry-and-chalk flavor profile. It's 70% Grenache and 30% Shiraz, a grownup (read: dry and full) version of rose at an affordable price. Its modern, sleek packaging, too, belies its cost. **SCORE 90**

Quarterly Review of Wines

Winter 2005/2006

California Must Buys - Highly affordable wine that really "rocks"

- 26996 2004 RUTHERFORD RANCH CHARDONNAY, NAPA VALLEY**
A newly named winery last year, whose aim was to deliver fine Napa Valley wine under \$20. They produce five varieties; we had the opportunity to taste the new Chardonnay, which is terrific wine. How Rutherford Ranch delivers this quality at this price is a mystery. But don't try to solve it, just drink it. Rich, generous in tropical fruit flavors. Nice buttery feel, with vanillin and oak. Nice soft finish. Delicious!

MARTIGNETTI COMPANIES Carolina Wine & Spirits · Silenus Wine Selections · Gilman Wine & Spirits

975 University Avenue, Norwood, MA 02062 800-USA-WINE



MARTIGNETTI Wine Review

Prices quoted reflect the deepest quantity discount published pricing as of date of publication, and are subject to change. All items subject to availability. For detailed information, please view the Beverage Journal or sign-up for the Martignetti Companies on-line ordering site*

Quarterly Review of Wines

Winter 2005/2006

ITEM

Five-Star French Champagnes

- 750821 1995 CHARLES HEIDSIECK BLANC DES MILLENAIRES**
100% Chardonnay. Elegant, creamy, toasted oak flavors reminiscent of top-class white Burgundy.
- 57853 1998 DOM PERIGNON**
Rich flavors of honey and orange zest, with lost of verve. Sumptuous.

Five-Star California Sparkling Wines

- 424460 2002 GLORIA FERRER BLANC DE BLANCS, SONOMA**
100% Chardonnay; two years aging on the yeast. Nice, ripe, pure, pear and melon flavors; teeny bubbles; good acidic grip; crisp, minerally, well-knit finish.
- 750701 1995 GLORIA FERRER CARNEROS CUVÉE, SONOMA**
55% Pinot Noir, 45% Chardonnay; 7 1/2 years aging on the yeast. Lush, creamy, highly sophisticated, almond, pear and vanilla flavors.