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Geoffroy Choppin de Janvry succinctly observed that 2019 yet another hot and very dry vintage but one that has better acidity and freshness than 2019. We picked from the 13th to the 17th of September during which it was really hot so being able to process the fruit quickly was very important. Thankfully the fruit was relatively uniformly ripe and spotlessly clean so the challenge of getting the fruit cooled down was much easier. Potential alcohols were good without being excessive at between 13.5 and 14%. The skins were quite thick, so I chose to do a very light extraction while using on average 20% whole clusters. e is fine energy and transparency. I think everyone will enjoy them. De Janvry noted that his 2019s were bottled between August and November 2020. (Jeanne-Marie de Champs, www.dscollection.com, NY, USA; House of Hallgarten, www.hallgarten.co.uk, UK; Grand Millésime Australia, www.grandmillesime.com.au, Australia; LCBO, www.lcbo.com and SAQ, www.saq.com, both Canada).

2019 Beaune "Aux Dessus de Marconnets" : There is a lovely freshness to the blend of mostly red berries that include cherry and raspberry along with a spice whiff. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension suffusing the minerally middle weight flavors that flash good detail on the bitter pit fruit inflected finish. This is a quality Beaune villages and worth a look.89/2024+

2019 Pommard : (from .4 ha parcel in La Rue au Port). A slightly more deeply pitched nose combines notes of plum, dark pinot fruit and warm earth where the latter element is picked up by the nicely voluminous and rich medium-bodied flavors that conclude in a delicious mouth coating finish. This doesn't have the same verve as the Dessus de Marconnets but it's satisfying all the same.....88/2025+

2019 Savigny-lès-Beaune "La Bataillère aux Vergelesses" : (a monopole). A subtle dollop of wood along with a mentholated top note can be found on the slightly earthier liqueur-like aromas of dark currant, black raspberry and forest floor scents. The sleek, vibrant and solidly rich medium-bodied flavors possess a lovely mid-palate mouthfeel that contrasts somewhat with the mildly rustic and lingering finale. This needs to develop more depth but this wine has a good track record of doing just that if allowed sufficient time. Worth your interest. 91/2026+

2019 Beaune "Cent Vignes" : Here the nose is mildly reduced though I suspect that it will pass quickly. Otherwise there is fine freshness and verve to the more refined middle weight flavors that also possess good underlying tension while exhibiting good length on the textured finish where the only nit is a hint of warmth. This too could use more depth but it's already attractive.90/2024+

2019 Beaune "Aigrots" : (from a 1 ha parcel of 15+ year old vines). Hints of herbal tea and soft earth add breadth to the cool and ultra fresh mix of red and dark pinot fruit. There is impressive volume and delineation to the overtly stony medium weight flavors that offer fine persistence on the highly refreshing finale. Once again, this would benefit from having better depth, yet the underlying material seems up to the task of developing more.91/2025+

2019 Beaune "Grèves" : An attractively perfumed nose features notes of violet, sandalwood, spice and ripe black cherry compote. There is excellent volume to the moderately dense medium-bodied flavors that possess a velvety, even seductive, texture while displaying fine power on the less refined but more robust finish. This is definitely more structured and a wine going to need at least some patience first though this is often the case with Grèves. One to consider.92/2027+

2019 Beaune "Toussaints" : This too is aromatically very pretty with its array of anise, floral, red and dark cherry and suggestion of humus scents. The elegance continues on the appealingly textured middle weight flavors that are at once seductive yet punchy, which contrasts considerably with the firm, serious, youthfully austere and built-to-age finale. This also is going to require at least some forbearance and is a wine that should amply repay extended keeping.92/2029+

2019 Beaune "Bressandes" : A plethora of floral elements, especially violet, combines with notes of spiced plum and cherry. The medium weight flavors are not as concentrated but they're finer thanks to the fine-grained tannins shaping the bitter cherry pit-inflected finish that is both dusty and refreshing finish. This needs better depth, but the development potential appears promising.91/2027+

2019 Beaune "Marconnets" : (a .67 ha parcel of 50+ year old vines). A cool and airy blend is composed by notes of poached plum, black cherry, raspberry and an interesting hint of clove. The beautifully textured middle weight flavors possess a caressing and sappy mouthfeel that also contrasts with the dusty, youthfully austere and markedly firm finale. This too is very promising though it's a wine that's going to need at least 5 to 7 years of cellaring first.92/2029+

2019 Beaune "Teurons" : Discreetly spicy and very pretty floral infused aromas include those of red and dark currant, cranberry and violet. The rich yet beautifully detailed and impressively intense medium-bodied flavors terminate in a focused, powerful and overtly saline finish that flashes outstanding depth and length. This is terrific and is also a wine that should amply reward extended keeping.93/2031+

Burgundy Report - Albert MOROT - 2019

31.12.2020 BILL NANSON

Geoffroy on 2019:

"A similar yield to 2020 – 30-35 hl/ha – not catastrophic, fortunately, we had no frost in this vintage. We harvested from 13 September and hoped for cooler weather – but it was rather warm in the end!"

The wines...

There are two pre-eminent, independent, domaines for (and in) Beaune – here and Domaine des Croix. Stylistically, there is a little more sweetness/sucrosity chez des Croix, but it's only a style, not a quality, difference.

Bravo – a super range of wines here in 2019. And, disclaimer, I also ordered (and already paid) for some!

2019 Beaune Dessus des Marconnets : *This an August bottling... All destemmed, this higher parcel is later ripening. A small cuvee and no new oak.*

Plenty of colour. An attractive and round nose – fresh red fruit – a good invitation. Supple, modest fat to this silky texture. A strong width of flavour here. A very tasty villages Beaune.

2019 Pommard : *From La Rue au Porc – lower-lying vines here.*

Plenty of colour again. More depth to this silky-fruited nose. Wide, a little more structural but the tannin is very well hidden. A little metallic edge to fine fruit today – but here is incisive flavour and super intensity for a villages label.

All the following bottled 1 week ago:

2019 Savigny-les-Beaune 1^{er} La Batailliere Aux Vergelesses : *Sited in Savigny's Les Vergelesses. One-third of this mid-slope 1.8-hectare monopole, 0.6ha, has been uprooted and planted with chardonnay.*

A large-scaled nose – lots of volume – fresher, a small wc perfume accent here too. Depth of flavour, a nice depth to the texture here too – not fat but still a few mm of cushioning. That's a particularly lovely and persistent finish. Super Savigny!

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Cents Vignes : *More clay and silt here at the bottom of the slope, vines planted in 1962.*

Starting tighter above but with lots of depth, this nose grows and grows, slowly adding higher-toned fruit and even a suggestion of florals. Fine shape and energy here – I love the open, slightly structured framework – the wc less visible but perhaps aiding the energy and complexity all the same. Simply excellent wine – open and fresh with lip-smacking finishing flavour.

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Les Aigrots : *Near the Clos des Mouches, 1 ha of vines, 1/3 of which are planted to white – there's more limestone and sand here. All destemmed in this case – as higher on the hill about half a degree less than the lower vines... Here 13°*

Not so deep but a nose that seems wider, fresher and a showing little more purity. Nicely clean and precise, lovely texture too – silky, direct cool-fruited wine. Long and mouth-watering. Love that – bravo!

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Toussaints : *There are not many who label this, and this another that is all destemmed.*

The nose is less forward, less open than the Aigrots. Large-scaled in the mouth, a big wine here, not too concentrated – nicely balanced but clearly plenty of volume and energy here. Excellent wine, just missing a touch of the elegance of the last, more strict but that won't be the case for too long.

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Greves : *Just 1 barrel – I'm honoured – Geoffroy doesn't usually open them after bottling.*

That's not a big nose but it's a precise and beautifully perfumed nose – really super. Wide, layered, completely beautiful and delicious wine – as elegant a Greves as you will find but still a complete wine. Directly bravo – that's a great bottle!

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Marconnets : *Right at the top of the hill of Beaune. Young, 6-year-old pinot-fin wines with a smaller amount of old vines. A narrow but fresh nose – reticent. Much fresher, more direct, cool fruited. Less directly sweet after the previous, but a certain elegance and slightly perfumed flavour. Another simply excellent Beaune.*

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Bressandes : *From above Toussaints, there's more limestone in this plot.*

Here's a wine that starts small but keeps gaining in volume and perfume – that's very lovely. High-toned, a little impression of whole clusters in the fresh middle flavour, Almost chewy depth of finishing flavour too. A more robust but equally delicious style of excellent Beaune.

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Teurons : *From higher up in the vineyard.*

Deeper, redder fruited – less width of aroma to start. Back to the sleek, silky, direct and cool-fruited style. A base of ultra-fine tannin but almost no dryness. Wide finishing, lingering oh-so-well. That's a great range of wine in 2019.

LES BLANCS

2019 Savigny-les-Beaune 1^{er} La Batailliere Aux Vergelesses Blanc : *This in Vergelesses. 6-year-old vines.*

Hmm – that's quite a big nose. Supple in the mouth, starting a little fat but with mouth-watering persistence, this seems ever-more airy and balanced. Still finishing in an ample way but always with a nicely mouth-watering style. Very tasty wine.

2019 Beaune 1^{er} Aigrots Blanc : *Here older vines – 30.*

Not so deep, despite a little more mineral style, but certainly a nice width of aroma – inviting. Super shape in the mouth – round but not too large, really mouth-watering in style, always with a sweetness – but not too sweet – of fruit. The best part is finish – long, narrow, faintly textured with tannin, full of cherry and apricot stone – lovely!