

Cynthia Hurley French Wines Recommendations

Cynthia Hurley French Wines in Burgundy

Sunday June 1, 2014

Eric de Suremain **Monthelie Premier Cru Clou des Chenes** 2010 Red Burgundy at its Best



www.suremain.com

Eric's Monthelie Premier Cru Clou des Chenes Label

This is one of the best values and purest premier cru red burgundies that I have found. And 2010 certainly now recognized as one of the best vintages in recent years, is getting increasingly difficult to find. If you love red burgundy (I am talking to everyone right?) think about adding this to your cellar.

Many of you already know that Eric de Suremain has got a talent for Pinot

Noir. I have only about 10 cases remaining of one of Eric de Suremain's higher-end offerings, his **Monthelie Premier Cru Clos des Chenes 2010**. Neil Martin gives this fine wine a rating of 89-91 points and the following rave review, "The Clos des Chenes has a lovely expressive, floral bouquet with vibrant red fruits and well integrated oak. The palate is medium-bodied with a ripe meaty core. It is tannic and grippy, a broad-shouldered Monthelie that should age well."

- Neil Martin

The Monthelie *Clou des Chenes* vineyard borders on neighboring Volnay premier cru vineyards - If it was over the border it would cost about +50% more - just one of the reasons this is such a high value bottling. Of course it still must have care and skill from the wine maker to deliver on this promise but that is where Eric comes in.

The flavors seem embedded in every molecule and they skip across my taste buds scattering black cherry, raspberry, minty, leathery, chocolaty fairy dust along the way. A refill, please.

Eric de Suremain took his vineyards biodynamic in 1996. He was way

ahead of his time, still is. Eric de Suremain does not embrace every little technological miracle that comes along. He still believes in getting up close and personal with his grapes by practicing *pigeage* -- good old-fashioned foot-stomping to get the most flavor from his pinot noir.

His yields are very low. His vines are old. He is restrained when it comes to new wood. Eric's wines remain in barrel for as long as two years. His wines are long-lived and will drink well up to ten years or more.

His philosophy about winemaking sounds simple, but is really profound: "there are no *petites annees*, it is just the balance which counts." This means that he is a flexible winemaker who adjusts for the variables in every vintage. He doesn't try to match the juice to his winemaking, he matches his winemaking to the juice and it is that skillful balancing act that makes a wine seem like a seamless wave of pure, expressive, ripe, Pinot flavor. Dive in.

-Margot Hurley, Cynthia Hurley French Wines

To order just hit reply and let me know how many cases. This shipment arrives next week.



The de Suremain Chateau in Burgundy which is pictured on the label

The Details

Eric de Suremain Monthelie Premier Cru Clos des Chenes 2010 12-bottle case \$551.88 (\$45.99)

Harmonious fruit and soft tannins.

This is a remarkable value for Burgundy of this quality.

The pricing and sale of any wine is made only by the licensed retailer, who will arrange for delivery on behalf of the customer at \$6 per case and must collect 7% NJ sales tax on all sales. There is a \$15 per case supplement for delivery addresses of the Mississippi River

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email: cynthia@cynthiahurley.com
phone: 617-965-4251