



extraprima®

Thomas Boxberger-von Schaabner

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Château
CHEVAL BLANC
Monsieur **Pierre Lurton**
F-33330 Saint-Emilion
FRANCE

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Dear Mr. Lurton,

With great enthusiasm I do remember tasting Cheval Blanc 2011 from cask on three different occasions in april 2012. The first time on april 2nd I rated this wine with sheer 100 points. Coming back to Bordeaux this evening, I was a bit confused whether my rating was really credible, so I decided to return to Cheval Blanc the day after, towards the end of the official tastings, to try to retaste the 2011. I did and again with 99/100 I rated it relatively high. The following week I returned with the group of Bill Blatch for the last time of his wonderfull 'chateau hopping'-tour. This time my tasting of Cheval Blanc 2011 ended up with 98/100. Leaving the tasting room we met each other and I gave you my compliments for this great wine. I told you that my ratings were near to 100 points. You were smiling kindly, not obviously showing a reflection, you would take my words as serious as I ment them to be.

Last week we organized a tasting with Bordeaux 2011, of course including Cheval Blanc. You can imagine this was one of the wines I was the most curious to retaste after bottling. Again I rated Cheval Blanc 2011 with 99 points. For me this is really great stuff, super fine, absolutely ripe in a very classic style, with an absurd level of finesse and definition. Why does nobody realize that 2011 for Cheval Blanc is a truly great vintage? I could not imagine this wine to be made better in any way. More concentration or power? Why?

In 2012 I was one of the rare tasters claiming 2011 to be a vintage that has sourced several top-wines, especially those from the right bank with a high content of Cabernet Franc. Obviously 2011 was one of the best vintages for this grape variety of the past 20 to 30 years. Attached you find the english version of my article printed in the wine magazine MEININGER'S WEINWELT from May 2012 in which I was explaining the positive aspects of the vintage 2011.

On this occasion again, I want to express my deep admiration for this fantastic Cheval Blanc 2011. From my side, I rather prefer this style of Bordeaux against the more powerful examples of 2009 and 2010 which in the case of Cheval Blanc I did not rate as high as 2011! Instead nearly all of the renowned tasters in the world have given higher ratings to 2009 and 2010.

Today I would be truly curious to get a statement from your side on Cheval Blanc 2011. How do you see this vintage after bottling? Is there any previous vintage you would compare 2011 with? How do you see the future of this wine? And how do you compare it against 2009 and 2010 actually?

Kindest regards

Thomas Boxberger-von Schaabner

○ Pflanze nur unempfindlich A 5033 wobei Pflanzenspanne Grösse
Kraut und Tüfte Grösse keine Dornen. (AET Dorn
und Stängelteilig Knappe) DETAILLIERTE
VORSTELLUNG GUT FÜR

□ SONGS ATZOWNE CRONIC DUNTE FEVE FETUNG
GROUN FEV UND TIEF CRESS ANZIGER PUNTER
STADT UNTER GISS UND NEU DOBE PRISCH
FEV UND CUBERAT. CRONIC TAMEK END FRESCH
GRANDIOSO TAMEK PUNTERUNG (ZORANT)
SONSATOWNE TIEFE, ALLES PASST
HIER VERBODEN MIT 2000 - NUR DER KRAFTIGSTE
CB ALER ZERST ABEN KOMPLET UND TIEF CUNOS
NÜCHT DER UNTERSTIG ABER GIBT DER FEINSTEN
CB ALER ZERST

Chowdhury B. Chowdhury

→ $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 10 = 50$

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T2 CF 48m

1. TIGT strecken komplex und präzise Konzepte aus

□ Sam Furo Distinguito Fmt mit ewigem rosen sam

Seit Anzählung: 1167 große Sammlung von Tieren
mitte bis Mitte kommt immer wieder mit freierem
Fuss und stark füllige große Tharion pflanzung

KUNSTEN FÜR EIN NIMMEN WERD DICH DICH ABER SEHEN SIE
 TETEN EINE FÜR DICH GO TUNDE SEHEN SIE
 IM ABGANG. TOLLO LANGE ROL

tasting note from April 2012 by Thomas Boxberger-von Schaabner ©

2011 Château CHEVAL BLANC | St.-Emilion |

98-100 |

Three times tasted at the Château with consistently high ratings between 98 and 100 points! For the first time at Cheval Blanc the Cabernet Francs have had more sugar and less acidity than the Merlots. Due to the perfect weather conditions for Cabernet Franc and the new vinification equipment 2011 succeeded to be one of the best Cheval Blanc of the past 20 years. Of course it is not the most powerful wine, this celebrated terroir ever generated. Rather, it is medium-bodied and elegant, but it is blessed by a finesse and precision that are simply breathtaking. Only nowadays in the current era of blockbuster wines such wine seems to be slim. In the 80s this great Cheval Blanc without any question would have received 100 points. Maybe we should rather turn back the wheel of time in terms of wine taste and evaluation? The tremendously powerful nose is very sweet, with a far spanned structure, endless depth and great maturity. Saturated, dense, fragmented into extremely fine particles, highly complex and precise, he is very detailed and multilayered in all aromatic aspects. Sensationally fine attack in the mouth, creamy, dense, fine, enormously complex and profound, always sweet and ripe, this fresh and elegant wine has an incredible transparency. Finest grained tannins are exposed all over the mouth, very complete and precise again. It's wonderful sweetness always resonates with the great terroir character, intermixed with fresh fruit and chocolaty opulence. 2011 is not the most powerful Cheval Blanc, but through the terrific Cabernet Francs it is one of the finest wines made on this estate of all time. | 3 times tasted | 52% Cabernet Franc | 48% Merlot | 100% new barrels |