



Dear Client,

In March, we welcomed in the Year of the Ox and rode the Golden Bull to an incredible US\$10 million in sales with 30% of the lots achieving New World Records! Building on this marvelous momentum, I'm pleased to present one of the most exciting sales we can recall ever conducting in **Hong Kong on April 23rd and 24th!** Whenever you have wines from **the personal collection of Martine Saunier**, it is sure to be a spectacular auction. Not to mention **consignments direct from the cellars of Domaine Duroché, Haegelen-Jayer, and Grafe-Lecocq**, and an incredible selection of **Champagne Salon and Delamotte**, including a luxurious, super-lot experience in Champagne at Salon, from a collector who purchased directly from the houses. How about two Methuselahs of 1979 DRC with impeccable provenance, one purchased at the Domaine and the other re-waxed at the Domaine, or an OWC of **1961 La Mission Haut Brion?** More DRC? How about an OWC of **1990 La Tache in magnums???** This is but a smattering of what's inside this exceptional auction, otherwise, this letter would be a book unto itself. We have five fantastic features this sale, so let's get into the juicy details!



We kick off our Friday night, "live online" session of over 500 lots, with a great estate selection of DRC and mature Bordeaux in **Lots 1-89**. These wines come to us from a lifelong collector and member of the Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin. 1986 Bordeaux provides the structure we need to start with standouts from **Haut Brion, Latour, Margaux, and Mouton**, before we tap into the greatness of decades past from the likes of 1961 **Figeac**, 1921 **Montrose**, and 1976 **Petrus**. Burgundy lovers can then behold over forty selections from The Domaine spanning four decades! Highlights here include 1980 Grands Echezeaux, 1996 La Tache, and Romanee St. Vivant back to 1978! Lovely **Leroy** then lends a hand, with historic offerings including 1953 La Romanee and 2001 Richebourg, before **Bouchard, Lafon, Leflaive, and Raveneau** offer a touch of white wine refreshment. An amazing cellar culled from a lifetime of collecting and the perfect start to a spectacular weekend, indeed!

Day Two titillates from the start with a trusty **trifecta of collectors** who feature some fantastic, French fine wine in **Lots 542-875**. The first gentleman here offers a hotline to Bordeaux royalty, with all wines purchased close to the source and professionally stored in England ever since. There are numerous original wood cases often in parcels and the Left Bank is thoroughly represented here, especially the five First Growths, of course — all hail this Bordeaux Royalty! The second sir in this series brings us a serious selection of Red Burgundy from what is but a mere slice of his collection. The treasure trove is deep here, with the spotlight on wines like 1996 La Tache, six lots of 2014 Leroy, including her ravishing Richebourg; **Fourrier, Mugnier, Cathiard**, and so many more gems. A fantastic collection in breadth, depth, and quality sure to scintillate every Burgundy lover around! Rounding out this terrific trifecta is an established collector with a taste for the best, buying from the best collections with superior provenance for decades. He brings our focus back to Bordeaux with bottles of 1959 **Haut Brion, Mouton, and Latour** (plus the 1961!). This is followed up by rare, full OWCs of some of the 20th century's most famous clarets: 1961 **La Mission**, 1959 **Margaux**, 1961 **Palmer**, and more, with the grande finale of 1982, 1989, and 2000 (in magnum) **Petrus!!!** This is a spectacular selection of the finest that Bordeaux has to offer; this trifecta is truly exceptional and the fanfare for France's best should accompany it!



Wines from the personal collection of Martine Saunier headline the **eight great consignments that come next in Lots 876-986**. In just over one hundred lots, we have some of the most exciting wines of the entire sale. This high-octane octet opens with a jewel box collection, including a rarely seen Jeroboam of 1998 **Chave** Cuvee Cathelin! One of the Acker originals, a regular buyer and seller in our auctions for over 25 years then brings us a bevy of OWCs including 1986 **Mouton**, 1989 **Lafleur**, 1990 **Lafite**, and 1990 **Petrus** in magnum. Rounding out this tidy parcel is an original wood case of 1990 La Tache magnums, banded before inspection— a rare gem to be sure! DRC continues to deliver the goods with eleven lots from The Domaine purchased on release, featuring La Tache, Romanee Conti, and Montrachet! The impeccable provenance prevails with four vintages of **de Montille** Malconsorts Cuvee Christiane and nine lots of lovely **Leroy** that shine a spotlight on the 2002 vintage, all purchased on release and professionally stored in London until this sale. Fifth on this fantastic list is a discerning yet understated collector of many of life's pleasures including, most importantly, wine! His storage reflects his exacting standards, and every bottle has been stored in ideally. Late release 1990 **Latour** in OWC sets the stage for 1991 **Rousseau** Chambertin, 1999 Leroy Grand Crus, 2010 **Coche-Dury**, **d'Auvenay** Chevalier, and more extravagance! The next two dozen lots come to us courtesy of lifelong wine lover whose global banking career provided him with cellars on three continents, granting us access to a case of 1989 **Haut Brion**, a magnum of 2005 Romanee Conti, selections of **Jacky Truchot**, and 1978s from **La Chapelle** and **Chave**— wow! **Martine Saunier** has still held onto some great wines, and we are incredibly grateful she is now parting with a precious few lots of legendary wines from some **Leroy**, **Rouget** and **Jayer**! Martine is the most well-known and documented source of the tremendous wines of **Henri Mayer** for the past 40 years and simultaneously struck up an incredible business relationship with Lalou Bize-Leroy in 1986. We dive into Martine's offering with three vintages of Cros Parantoux from Rouget. The piece de resistance is five vintages of Henri Mayer Cros Parantoux going back to 1978, including a full case of 1998! All wines in this consignment come directly from Martine Saunier's private cellar, where they have been stored at ideal conditions since arriving from Burgundy. We are nothing short of humbled and incredibly proud that Martine has once again chosen Acker for the honor of selling these treasures! The eighth and final offering of this feature comes to us from one of Europe's most important and influential collectors. Though rarely a seller, he felt these two extremely special, large formats of **Domaine de la Romanee Conti** needed new homes. The Methuselah of 1979 Richebourg was purchased by our consignor at the Domaine in 2002 from the estate manager of DRC. The 1979 Romanee Conti Methuselah was purchased at auction in 1995 and later re-waxed by Bernard Noblet, winemaker of DRC for over thirty years. Both are incredibly monumental, large formats from DRC with outstanding provenance. It is a privilege to offer such an impressive selection and there are more bottles than we could mention here, so dive in!

After a record-setting consignment in the US, it an honor to welcome back this superlative selection of **Salon and Delamotte Champagne** including a unique experience to our Hong Kong friends in **Lots 987-1021**! This collection comes to us courtesy of a passionate Champagne lover and friend of the houses, where his close relationship allowed him to acquire significant allocations, including rare magnums and recently disgorged collection vintages. Our consignor is the original owner of all wines and has kept them professionally stored in London since purchase, making this selection as if buying directly from the Champagne houses! We commence the festivities with multiple cases of Delamotte going back to 1970. Salon shines with a multi-vintage, Oenotheque case, followed by impressive parcels of 2002 and 2006. We draw special attention to and put the spotlight on Lot 1016, a super-lot of majestic proportions, boasting a luxurious lunch or dinner for six at the House of Salon, along with magnums of the recently disgorged 1970 and 1983 Delamotte Collection, a multi-vintage oenotheque case of Salon, in addition to magnum cases of 2002 and 2004! This is a dream come true for any serious Champagne lover, where your meal will be accompanied by a perfectly paired tasting of Salon and Delamotte. Pop the Champagne now in anticipation of this once-in-a-lifetime experience!



We wrap up this exceptional auction with a trio of consignments from **Domaine Duroché, Haegelen-Jayer, and Grafe Lecocq, all direct from their cellars in Lots 1022-1134!** One of the most exciting developments in Gevrey Chambertin in the past decade has been the emergence of Pierre Duroché at Domaine Duroché. The fifth-generation in his family's lineage of winemakers, Pierre is a force with which to be reckoned, making structured and delicious wines with tremendous potential, eschewing the modernist approach to new oak to make delicate, detailed wines throughout their 8.25 hectares. It is a pleasure to offer an impressive selection of young Gevrey from this rising star crested by extremely rare Jeroboams of Chambertin Clos de Beze, Charmes, Latriceres, and Estournelles St. Jacques, in addition to verticals of Lavaut St. Jacques and its Vieilles Vignes, as well as a singular bottle of 2016 Griotte, his rarest cuvee of which only ten cases are bottled in the best years! It is a pleasure to welcome back Chambertin's next big thing, Domaine Duroché! Next, we are extremely proud to present this amazing collection of Clos Vougeot from Domaine Haegelen-Jayer, straight from the cellars of the former owners. Domaine Haegelen-Jayer was like a beautiful comet in the sky of Burgundy, lasting only for one generation, founded at the end of the 1960s by Alfred Haegelen and his wife Madeleine Jayer, cousin of the legendary Henri Jayer. Alfred learned about wine from the Morin family at Chateau de la Tour in Clos Vougeot, while his wife worked at Chateau de la Tour and DRC— their Domaine sprung from these connections, with holdings in Clos Vougeot and Echezeaux. The Haegelen-Jayer style was very classical and pure until their retirement in 2009, the last vintage produced. This collection is a fantastic opportunity for buyers to obtain full cases of their Clos Vougeot from 1989 to 2009 and a chance to own a slice of Burgundian history with pristine provenance! Rounding out this prestigious offering is a selection of wines from the perfect cellars of Grafe-Lecocq in Belgium. Since 1952, Grafe-Lecocq has been an official, patented supplier of the Royal Court of Belgium, and Bernard Grafé now represents the 4th generation. What makes Grafe-Lecocq unique is that their portfolio covers the most important regions of France, unlike typical, French négociants that specialize in only one region. Historically, the house not only bottled wines themselves but also distributed some of France's best, purchased on release. There are numerous Chateau-bottled wines on offer here, including 1962 Calon Segur, 1959 Haut Brion, 1982 Lynch Bages, and 1989 Trotanoy, alongside Grafe Lecocq-bottled 1961 Cheval Blanc magnums, 1966 Montrose, and 1959 Petrus en magnum! A Burgundian connection was formed as Grafe and Drouhin are cousins, conferring upon us 1952 Chambertin and 1945 Pommard, in addition to other excellent Burgundies including three extremely rare bottles of 1937 Rene Engel Clos Vougeot! All these wines have been situated in Belgium since purchase or bottling and it is a great honor to offer you wines direct from the cellars of Grafe Lecocq!

It's difficult to not wax poetic on such a stellar selection of bottles, so be sure to study this catalogue thoroughly to seek out some outstanding stuff. We cannot wait for this sale to start, with our **"live online" evening session on Friday, April 23rd**, followed by our **day session on Saturday, April 24th**. Cheers!

In Vino Veritas,

John Kapon
Chairman, Acker Merrall & Condit Companies