



Dear Client,

Spring is almost in the air, depending on where you're living these days, and Acker is back with another, terrific, **two-day auction in Delaware on March 11th and 12th!** We've been pushing as hard as we can to keep delivering the finest and rarest wines to you, and we are on track to sell **US\$40 million** in just the first quarter of the year! This sale, like every other, is brimming with nothing but the best, but four collections fit our featured forecast, so here they are!

We're ready to warm things up on the auction block on night one in **Lots 177-304**, with some glorious, California wine sunshine! This longstanding New York collector, and decades-old friend of the house, brings us wines from a reinvigorated region: California is all the rage these days! Primarily purchased directly from winery mailing lists, the list of hits is hot and heavy, from **Abreu**, to **Colgin**, to **Dunn** in special five-liter bottles, to magnums and magic from Harlan, and stunning selections of **Screaming Eagle** and its **Second Flight** in OWCs. There are rare **Sine Qua Non** in large formats, followed by more Cabernet with credentials from the likes of **Araujo**, **Bond**, **Caymus**, **Montelena**, and more. For those looking to re-up on California's golden treasures, look no further!



We've seen the **Golden Phoenix** grace these pages time and time again over the last few months, but he is reincarnated once more, like a thunderbolt from the hands of Zeus! **Lots 305-406!!!** After achieving numerous world records in New York, Delaware and Hong Kong, he continues his timeless cycle of rebirth, focusing this time around on thunderous Bordeaux with a flourish of Burgundy and more. Top Bordeaux is here in quantity and quality with parcels of 2000 **Cheval Blanc**, 1990 **La Mission**, and 2001 **Lafleur**, as well as cases of 1989 and 1990 **Haut Brion**, 1982 **l'Evangile**, and a super-rare OWC of 1982 **Lafleur**. There are further outstanding cases such as 1982 **Latour** in bottle and magnum, in addition to 1995 and 2000 **Haut Brion** each in four formats. Large formats abound, led by an Imperial march of 2005 **Margaux**, 2000 **Petrus**, as well as a Jeroboam of 1961 **Lafite!** We wash everything down with several cases of **Domaine Leflaive**, 1995 **Krug** Clos du Mesnil, and parcels of **Vega Sicilia** Unico Reserva Especial. All of the Golden Phoenix collection has come from professional storage, where most of these wines have been lying since being purchased on release. The Phoenix has risen yet again, and it is an honor and a pleasure to welcome back the collection of the Golden Phoenix! This is as significant a wine cellar as any you will find in the world today!!!

Lots 751-802 offer up a unique opportunity as we finely focus on the two champions of Champagne's Blanc de Blancs style: **Salon** and **Delamotte**, which come to us courtesy of a passionate, Champagne lover. His close relationship to the house allowed him to acquire significant, reserve allocations, particularly rare magnums and recently disgorged vintages. Our consignor is the original owner of these wines and has kept them all professionally stored in London since purchase, making this selection as close to buying directly from the Champagne house! We commence the festivities with multiple cases of 2007 Delamotte, as well as parcels of recently disgorged 1999 and 2000 Delamotte Collection, in bottle and magnum. Salon shines with five cases of 1997, before the celebrated, youthful 2002, 2004, and 2006 vintages in bottle and magnum shine through. This tribute to recent, Salon history is sure to keep your cellar shimmering for years to come! We must shine the spotlight on **Lot 802**, a super-lot of majestic proportions, boasting a luxurious lunch or dinner for six at the House of Salon, along with magnum cases of the recently disgorged 1970 and 1983 Delamotte Collection,



in addition to magnum cases of 2002, 2004, and 2006 Salon. Your visit will be hosted by the gracious staff of Champagne Salon Delamotte, where you and your companions will enjoy a unique peek into the cellars of these exquisite properties that boast some of the best terroirs in Le Mesnil-sur-Oger. Taking things to the next level, the meal will be accompanied by a vertical tasting of specially curated bottles of Salon and Delamotte. This amazing experience is a dream come true for any Champagne lover! There's nothing quite like Salon and Delamotte, and this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

We close out the sale with the last, but certainly not the least, consignor of the auction, as we bring you the Precise Collection of a Prominent Surgeon in **Lots 806-1225**! Our magnanimous consignor is a renowned, West Coast, sports medicine doctor and lifelong basketball player who brings us many big-time wines that should be fundamental to the development of your cellar! A great team player, he is always helping others along the way and will be donating a portion of the proceeds from this sale to charity, including a major charity that he founded, which provides free sports medicine care to inner city youth. This sizable collection wielding weighty, fine wine gravitas comes to us courtesy of a larger-than-life collector and his appropriately oversized cellar. Despite its mammoth dimensions and locations, he simply has too much wine, and we are delighted to have from him numerous, benchmark wines just hitting the primetime of their ideal drinking curves. We take a bounce on Bordeaux, led by cases of 1982, 1990, and 2000 **Cheval Blanc**, 1990 **Montrose**, and more, before things get serious as we pair vintages by the caseload of 1996 and 2000 **Lafite**, 1982 and 1990 **Las Cases**, and 1982 and 1990 **Margaux**. History hits us hard as we relish in 1966 and 1975 **La Mission**, 1961 **Ducru**, and a 1961 **Lafite** magnum, before Pomerol powers us further with selections of **Le Pin** and **Petrus**! Red Burgundy brings us to the second half, with star performances by **Domaine de la Romanee Conti** and lovely, Lady **Leroy**. DRC dominates the court with offerings like La Tache back to 1995, with sightings of the 1999, 2002, and 2005 vintages, and even THE Romanee Conti shows its might with bottles of 1990 and 2015. Luxurious lots from Leroy are led by Clos Vougeot and Boudots, before other names by the caseload have us careening, like **Hudlot-Noellat** Richebourg, **Drouhin** Amoureuses, **Roty** Charmes, and **Ponsot** Clos de la Roche. We pause for one bottle of 1978 **Henri Mayer** Echezeaux, before more of this ridiculous roster keep the game afloat, as **Dugat-Py** Mazis, **Meo-Camuzet** Cros Parantoux, and more keep spirits high. The Rhone then romps with the biggest names, as **Beaucastel** Hommage, **Guigal** La Las, 1978 **Chave** and **La Chapelle** champion Syrah, before 1990 **Krug** magnums refresh us for this long haul. A dash of Italy, featuring 2000 **Monfortino**, 1996 **Gaja**, and 1995 **Sassicaia**, fortifies us before we head back to the West Coast where more than 80 lots of Californian greatness from **Abreu**, **Bryant**, **Colgin**, **Harlan**, **Scarecrow**, **Screaming Eagle**, **Marcassin** and more make us rock through the vibrant vintages of the 1990s and early aughts. This is the finest and rarest from this exceptional collection where every lot is a slam dunk! There are many great free agent wines here that you will want to recruit to make your cellar All-Star all the time!

We cannot wait to summon spring and see all these fabulous wines find roots in new homes at this stunning sale in Delaware on Thursday, March 11th and Friday, March 12th. See you online and cheers to your health and to great wine!

In Vino Veritas,

John Kapon
Chairman, Acker Merrall & Condit Companies