

en Ville



EVENT DESIGN AND CATERING

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My Wine Loop

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I'm not one to complain and have always maintained the quality of the wines we are allowed to purchase under the archaic, draconian, controlling system we have, are above average.

Also, the price of the wines under the monopolistic, dictatorial, tunnel-visioned system is not too bad. But for our holiday season, what a litany of uninspired Vintages releases. Perhaps they think because it's Christmas the revenue will be there, so no need to try hard. Surely, satisfying wine lovers needs is bigger than the government's need for a dollar.

The lack of variety in the system is so sad, a recent visit to a minor liquor store in upstate New York revealed six varieties of Hermitage and three Côte-Rôtie, check out our selection. Whilst I'm in the mood, what type of oenophilic-culinary philistine is responsible for the wine pairings in the Vintages catalog? They range from the bizarre to the hilarious. Didn't Trudeau say "Governments have no business in the cellars of the nation?"

Gonzalez-Byass Nutty Solera, Medium Dry Oloroso, Spain

**Exceptional Value!!*

This Oloroso is exceptionally well priced. I've been drinking more and more Sherrys over the last 18 months. This particular Sherry I've tasted on several occasions, has the typical dry Oloroso bite. There's a definitive length and a distinct nut flavour mid-palette, which also comes out in the length.

#35204 ...\$11.95

Barossa Valley Estates 'Ebenezer' Cabernet Sauvignon 2002 Barossa Valley, South Australia

“Ebenezer” Cabernet Sauvignon is a true Australian classic from the famous Barossa Valley. Extreme temperatures, flavours of over-ripe fruits, the terror, allows for a much richer flavour profile than you would see from Cabernet in the Old World. This wine will be priceless in 10 years from today. I know it’s expensive but I’m going to treat myself to a couple of bottles and hope that I live to enjoy them.

#990689 ...\$38.95

d'Arenberg 'The Feral Fox' Pinot Noir 2004, Adelaide Hills, South Australia

Here we are, another great wine from d’Arenberg. I would imagine, however, under the incredible system in Ontario, you’ll have to be an agile pugilist to obtain a bottle, since I’m sure this will be in extremely short supply. The wine itself is absolutely outstanding. I’ve had 2 previous vintages, this vintage I’ve heard is really exceptional. The name of the wine is taken from the fact that there are foxes in the Adelaide Hills that have taken to eating Chester Osborn’s Pinot Noir grapes. Now, how Chester knows this I think can only be through their droppings, so I think he should look more towards the high trellis.

#652891 ...\$26.95

De Bortoli 'Db' Shiraz 2004, 'Southeastern' Australia

**Good Value!!*

This wine is spicy, peppery, young and presently a little tannic. I was impressed that it will smooth out and get the acids and fruits in a better balance in the next 2 to 4 years. I was also equally impressed with the price. I’m going to buy ½ a dozen and start drinking them in 2 to 3 years time. Should be a keeper. Good price.

#595314 ...\$12.95

Domaine De L'ameillaud 2003, Vin de Pays de Vaucluse, Rhone, France

**Exceptional Value!!*

This wine, the varietel blend is typical for the region. It’s one of those minor appellations that are now coming into their own. Very short term cellaring, an extremely pleasant, well made, layered wine.

#719286 ...\$9.95 – *Exceptional Value!!*

Duca Di Salaparuta 'Terre D'agala' 2001, IGT Sicilia, Italy

I believe Italian wines would be much more popular if they didn't have so many vowels in the name, I can never pronounce them properly. However, I can drink them properly. This Sicilian wine uses the local varietel which produces little tannin and has a very full expression. It's an extremely well rounded and structured wine. The acid and fruit are in fine balance. The wines from Sicily over the last 10 years, have realized an expediential increase in quality.

#658328 ...\$14.95

Symington Family Estates 'Altano' 2003, Tinta Roriz/Touriga Franca, DOC Douro, Portugal

**Exceptional Value!!*

This wine I've enjoyed 4 previous vintages. I buy a couple of cases each year. It is my first choice with fish, whether cod in a mornay sauce or skate in black butter and capers. It's rounded, very full in the mouth, it's gentle, not robust. It needs about 3 months in the cellar to rest, remember this has come a long way, wines do need to rest. An exceptionally fine wine. My cellar has not been without a case of this for 4 or 5 years. This is a must have.

#579862 ...\$11.95

Eat and drink well.

Best regards,



Geoffrey



Comments are welcome: geoffrey@enville.com



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