

WHITE WINE

- 2017 Brave Souls** Riesling (Eden Valley, South Australia) **47**
Brave Souls is the creation of young winemaker Julia Weirich, in collaboration with Simon Cowham and Corey Ryan of Sons of Eden. The name is inspired by the story of the famous Admella shipwreck of 1859 and spotlights the remarkable accounts of those characters who risked their lives to help the survivors. Heaps of citrus notes supported with an enduring but well balanced mineral line that really goes the distance, wrapping up in a dry finish.
- 2018 Two Tonne Ziggurat** Riesling, Gewürztraminer (Tamar Valley, Tasmania) **65**
Some of the first wines we've had from Ricky Evans's stand alone operation in Tasmania and we're loving it. The 2018 white is comprised of mostly Riesling which was fermented in barrel and in tank, and a dash of Gewürztraminer which was fermented on skins for a week giving some slight texture and just a hint of turkish delight. Get in quick as this vintage is almost sold out!
- 2017 Eden Road** Riesling (Canberra, ACT) **68**
New winemaker, Celine Rousseau, appears to be taking this 2017 wine in a more racy, savoury and complex direction. This 2017 Riesling is drawn from both the Estate vineyard and from the Long Rail Gully vineyard located just north of the village. Eden Road have been working with Riesling from this latter vineyard since 2008. The palate is crunchy and vibrant with citrus pith green apple notes as well as some tropical hints that suggest musk and lychee.
- 2018 Bests Great Western** Riesling (Geelong, Victoria) **55**
2015 Bests Great Western Foudre Ferment Riesling (Geelong, Victoria) ~ **75**
Grown on the sandy loams of the Concongella Creek and the Rhymney Vineyard sites, and occasionally from selected local vineyards, **Best's Riesling** shows the intensity and finesse that are hallmarks of the Great Western region. Beautifully high in acid with accompanying fruit. Too good to not have a bottle. If perhaps you like a little more texture in your Riesling have a look at the **Foudre Ferment**, a combination of riesling from several different blocks in Great Western fermented in a 2500L French oak foudre crafted by Marc Grenier of Burgundy. The Foudre Ferment Riesling is fuller flavoured with hints of oak, spice and honey. It is well balanced with a touch of sweetness and a crisp acidity. Get in quick as I only have one left
- 2017 Von Buhl Trocken** Riesling (Pfalz, Germany) **65**
Von Buhl's entry-level dry Riesling is drawn, in the main, from the estate's sandstone-rich vineyards around the villages of Deidesheim, Forst and Ruppertsberg. There's also some fruit from two small parcels that lie to the immediate east, Niederkirchen and Friedelsheim, both of which are fun to say with your best german accent. The juicy 2017 captures the estate's mineral and racy style to a tee, with citrus and floral notes and a dry, tangy personality. As always, it's an absolute banger.
- 2016 Santa & Dsas Reno (1500ml)** Riesling (King Valley, Victoria) **137**
I love high acid riesling. I really can't put my finger on why but it's all I seem to be drinking of late. I'm sure that'll change as winter sets in and I start looking to Germany for a little residual sugar But for now this is way up my alley. Reno pours Pale straw in colour with a green tinge, lime and tangerine on the nose mirrored on the palate with great fruit intensity. Powerful varietal flavours of lime, orange citrus, and fresh rosemary are balanced by the refreshing natural acidity and crisp dry finish. Belting. It's only by the Magnum so might want to rope in some mates.
- 2018 Two Tonne TMV** Riesling (Tamar Valley, Tasmania) **78**
Again from Ricky Evans, this is a tightly coiled and refined Riesling of streamlined fruit character and delicate finesse. A lick of residual sugar gives this a lovely balance in the mouth, making it brilliant to drink immediately.
- 2017 Ravensworth** Riesling (Ravensworth, New South Wales) **62**
There's no beating around the bush: this is a first rate riesling, its floral bouquet an instant come-on, followed by a riveting palate of lemon, lime and green apple fruit within the embrace of flinty/minerally acidity. Moreover, this is a wine bred to stay the distance. A lovely follow up to the beautiful 2015 Riesling. This is slightly more delicate with distinct florals, fennel spice and lemon zest aromas. As always the distinct acid framework lends itself to long cellaring but it tis a lovely, light zesty wine right now.
- 2017 Meadowbank Riesling** Riesling (Meadowbank, Tasmania) **70**
Meadowbank's Riesling vines were planted in 2005 and, with the arrival of Peter Dredge in 2016, have surely never been put to better use. From 2017 Dredge has rolled out organic practices across all the estate's vineyards allocated for the rebooted Meadowbank label. A Beautifully balanced riesling with a little sweet spice and grip.

- 2015 A.J. Adam** Riesling (Mosel, Germany) **72**
 The Grand Cru Hofberg is one of the greatest Mosel vineyards. In 1868 the vineyards of this hill were classified by the Preußen as an extraordinary place to make great Rieslings. The main part of the vineyards in our region are situated on the Mosel river. A stinging example of Mosel, Plenty of fruit balanced by this super vibrant acid line that almost dances the length of your tongue. if you're a riesling fan then you should jump on this action quick as it's our new favourite and we might just drink it all on you.
- 2015 Zilliken** (375ml) Riesling (Mosel, Germany) **41**
 Peach, apricot, spring blossoms and wet stone, classic Mosel, just delicious, tangy fun. Concentrated lemon and lime flavors are cut clean through with a razor-sharp spritz acidity, followed by a refreshing grapefruit sherbet twist on the finish. (half bottle)
- N.V. Müller-Catoir** Riesling, Pinot Blanc (Pfalz, Germany) **74**
 From one of the premier wine estates along the length of the Rhine comes a wine I'm particularly excited about. It's very unusual to see this wine outside of Pfalz, in fact it took three years of convincing to have the Müller estate release this wine into the world. Mostly Riesling, with lesser amounts of Rieslaner, Scheurebe and Weissburgunder (Pinot Blanc) and coming entirely from the 2016 harvest. You won't find the vintage on the bottle as a Gutswein classification doesn't allow for the vintage to be stated. Better rope in some mates as it comes by the litre.
- 2016 Von Buhl Forster Trocken** Riesling (Pfalz, Germany) **109**
 Where do you go following twelve successful vintages as Bollinger chef de cave? In the case of Mathieu Kauffmann, you take up the post of head winemaker at iconic Von Buhl Estate in the Pfalz. First introduced in 2013, this village-level Riesling aims to reflect the village of Forst in general. Expect a textural Riesling tsunami of citrus pith, chamomile and saline notes and a long, vibrant, mineral close. An undeniable bargain.
- 2016 Robert Weil Trocken** Riesling (Rheingau, Germany) **117**
 I love Robert Weil Wines, I'm fairly certain that me and my regular wine drinking companions are responsible for last vintages scarcity in regional Victoria. The fruit for this 2015 was picked at Spätlese level, bringing remarkable depth that works beautifully to complement the wine's vibrant, crunchy acidity and mineral intensity. This may be Weil's first level wine but it is simply far too good to be called "entry level". Tasted blind you would be sure you were tasting a benchmark. Get in before I do.
- 2013 Gunderloch Als War ein Stuck von mir** Riesling (Rheinhessen, Germany) **98**
2013 Gunderloch Nierstein Riesling (Rheinhessen, Germany) ~ **85**
 The **Jean-Baptiste** has a fair lick of residual sugar, red-slate spice edges and nectarines. The palate is nice and precise, with a grey-slate minerality. The **Als War** has some skins and lees contact, is complex and harmonious. The **Nierstein 2013** is precise, lifted & direct with limey citrus aromas as well as a smoky rather than spicy minerality. Just a hint of florals above all of that. Linear, savoury & direct in the mouth.
- 2018 Arfon** Pinot Grigio (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **53**
 If you're into fun flexible whites, this is for you! Apple and brown pear, rose and spicy cinnamon aromas with a hint of bread crust goodness. The palate is dry, savoury and textural with preserved lemon rind, fennel and pear flavours. Had I said all of that without referring to a wine you might well think I was talking about Apple pie.
- 2016 Lethbridge** Pinot Gris (Geelong, Victoria) **52**
 Tried this out at lunch with some mates in Geelong and it suck with me so much I had to grab a few for the shop. Beautiful blush copper in colour, the nose is fragrant and lifted with lots of spice and nutty barrel-derived complexity. Light and fresh on the palate, zesty with good acidity and fruit intensity, finishing clean and refreshing. Absolute belter. But get in quick. I won't let it last long.
- 2016 The Other Wine Co.** Pinot Gris (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **61**
 It's not reinventing the wheel, it's just putting a bit of a spit shine on one. It's Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris produced in a fresh, crisp, vibrant and appealing-to-many style that says 'refreshing' in a clear way. It smells like pears apple and faint spice, drinkably juicy and crisp acidity. A two bottle wine if ever there was one.
- 2017 Venchiarezza** Pinot Grigio (Friuli, Italy) **59**
 This variety is cultivated in northeast Italy. In Friuli, nearly a quarter of the vineyard planted it. The classical Friulian pinot grigio, rich and elegant. Straw yellow colour with typical light copper reflections. Expect mature fruit, yellow pear, banana on the nose with a silken texture with lively minerality.
- 2016 Six Parallel South** Pinot Gris (on Skins) (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **59**
 Not your average Pinot Gris, For starters its lurid pink. Left on skins for texture and colour and boy is it gnarly. The closest I can liken it to is cranberry juice with a hint of spritz. Not at all like the other gris getting around but worth a crack if you want to try something a little funky. Adult fruit juice.

- 2014 M.Chapoutier** Bila-Haut Grenache Blanc, Grenache gris (Cotes du Roussillon , France) **44**
 The Roussillon history is complex and compelling, and has at times been quite violent. Terraces on stony soil, with a rich geological background and a climate that man has adopted for his crops. The Roussillon was bound to attract Michel Chapoutier's attention. An aromatic blend of Grenache Blanc, Grenache Gris and Macabeu Billa-Haut has a pleasing round palate with great acidity finished with mild minerality.
- 2016 Lorca Fantasia** Torrontes (Lorca Valley , Argentina) **56**
 Torrontés is Argentina's white grape of choice. This fresh, clean example is a greenish yellow colour. Maximum expression of fruit. Strong presence of floral notes, jasmine, and citrus notes. Good freshness and a long finish. Perfect paired with some seafood or quaffed as is!
- 2016 Betes Curieuses** Muscadet (Loire Valley, France) **66**
 Wonderfully complex nose with oodles of citrus zest and lemon pie, wonderful mineralogy and zipping acidity on the palate. a great side step from riesling for those looking to step out of their comfort zone, But get in quick it's fast becoming a staff favourite.
- 2015 All Saints** Marsanne (Wahgunyah, Victoria) **51**
 Brilliant very pale straw colour with a watery hue. Nosing reveals scents of ripe pear and honeysuckle followed by some Jonathan apple with very faint spice end notes. Medium bodied and texturally well rounded the palate features flavours of ripe pears, honeysuckle, a trace of citrus and light spice. Clean dry finish. Aftertaste of ripe pears, honeysuckle and a touch of spice.
- 2016 Garagiste Cotier** Pinot Gris (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) ~ **66**
2016 Garagiste Cotier Riesling (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **66**
 Anyone with a passing interest in cool-climate Australian wines will already know that Garagiste is one of the Mornington Peninsula's brightest rising stars. Barnaby Flanders has been making great, terroir-driven Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in Mornington for a while now under his Garagiste label, this, the "Cotier" range is a step up again with minimal intervention, carbonic maceration and skin contact. These are 'Orange Wines' with class and swagger. The first thing you notice about the **2016 Pinot Gris** is the beautiful copper colour. In this, and all things, this isn't your typical Pinot Gris: herbal, savoury and dry. like all these wines it's heavily textured with notes of ruby red grapefruit, amaro and black tea. the **2016 Riesling** is golden in the glass, rich and pithy in the mouth. looks for yellow grapefruit, lemongrass and ginger again with that skin contact grip.
- 2015 Amstead Estate** Marsanne (Heathcote, Victoria) **62**
 A great local example of the verity. A full bodied and textural wine, one should expect pear, melon and a distinct nuttiness wrapped in a super pleasant but not to clinging viscosity.
- 2015 Aller Trop Loin Summer White** Chardonnay, Verdelho (Bendigo, Victoria) **47**
 Every year Mark Sztar from Six Parallels south releases a fun funky non kosher wine for the masses to glug. This Summer White is comprised of young Bendigo Verdelho and Yarra Valley Chardonnay. Inspired by the naff kung fu movies of the 70's this wine takes itself about as seriously as you'd expect. . . That being not at all. Little Melon and citrus with some texture. Highly drinkable.
- 2017 Silver Spoon Estate Cambrian White** Viognier (Heathcote, Victoria) **46**
 One of my favourite verities come the warmer months, rich texture with heaps of pear and apricot harmonising with other tropical fruits. wonderfully fresh vibrant a perfect bottle among some friends in the laneway.
- 2017 Sutton Grange Field Blend** Viognier, Fiano (Bendigo, Victoria) **59**
 A 'Field Blend' of Fiano and Viognier picked from the granite foothills of Mount Alexander. Punchy aromatics of lemons, mandarin, guava and white peach, with a little savoury spice on the schnoz. The palate is fleshy with heaps of white stone fruits and citrus, balanced with a marzipan and lemon butter, All rounded out with a lick of acidity.
- 2018 Jean Paul** Marsanne, Riesling (Heathcote, Victoria) **55**
 Jean Pauls attitude towards wine making is a little "risk it for the biscuit". By that we mean he's happy to risk loosing a barrel to make a wonderfully complex wine for us to enjoy. Handpicked, 100% carbonic macerated for one week then gently pressed in a wooden basket press, then topped by a little Rielsing. The wine was aged 6 months in French barriques. Unfiltered, low sulphur. Wonderfully grippy with honey, melon and a lick or green olive.
- 2018 Gentle Folk Scary Gully White** Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **65**
 A Sauvignon blanc/ Chardonnay co-ferment from the schist of the back block. Couple of buckets of Gewurztraminer skins thrown into the mix. Two weeks of whole bunches covered in juice slowly going through carbonic maceration. Definitely not orange, just texture and aromatics for days.
- 2018 Aller Trop Loin** Sauvignon Blanc (Yarra Valley , Victoria) **55**
 As long as you're cool with some very slight cloudiness you're in for a treat. Crafted from grapes grown at Bulong Estate in Yarra, a 22 year old vineyard on loamy clay and siltstone soil, this fruit was destined for the Estate range until after tasting Mark decided that this was too good for fining and filtering so left it as is! Wonderful aromatics with balanced acidity and just the right amount oh herbaceousness.

- 2017 Telera Pernela** Sauvignon Blanc / Fume Blanc (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **57**
 Pernela is an expression of Mornington Peninsula Sauvignon Blanc. Richly textured, it's made from estate-grown handpicked grapes, barrel fermented in selected French oak. Heaps of peach and passionfruit on the nose, pleasing acidity, balanced with tropical fruits, citrus and a lingering finish.
- 2017 Michael Hall** Sauvignon Blanc (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **73**
 Grown on acidic sandy loam over brown clay on the steep east-facing Hill Block in Summertown, this fumé style Sav got a ripping review from Halliday this year (Awarded Best Sauvignon Blanc at the 2019) and we tent to agree. Everything you would want from a Sav without being overbearing. Well worth a look.
- 2017 Boomtown White** Blend (Castlemaine, Victoria) **47**
 Love these guys! Great unusual wines made by some local legends. This years "white" is a blend of six grape varieties from five sites in Central Victoria. From north to south; Albarino for Colbinabbin, Riesling and Viognier from Tooborac, Vermentino from Redesdale, Pinot Gris from Mt Alexander and Chardonnay from Faraday. The grapes were all processed individually, ranging from whole bunch pressing with press cut selection's, destemmed cold soaks, and destemmed pressing. A quality quaffer.
- 2016 Domaine Huet Sec** Chenin Blanc (Loire Valley, France) **126**
 Usually I make it a note not to use profane language when writing tasting notes. But holy shit is this wine good. I'm a massive fan of Chenin Blanc as it is and I'm of the opinion that this is the best producer rolling wines out of Vouvray. Already has that lanolin character on the nose, fairly light-bodied fruit with a ripe, tropical citrus character, plus a bit of peach. Drinks kinda like honey on toast.
- 2017 Chateau de la Roulerie P'tit Chenin** Chenin Blanc (Loire Valley, France) **61**
 Chenin but not as you may have had it before. Expect a heap of fresh pineapple, peach and white fruit flavours. It is crisp and dry, with an attractive touch of honey. A great match for anything with a little spice.
- 2017 Trenal Beaujolais Blanc** Chardonnay (Beaujolais, France) **56**
 Straight up chardonnay off twenty-five year old vines this "Beaujolais Blanc" is produced on two parcels in the south of the region. The first, located in the "Pierres Dorées", gives the wine a zesty aspect coming from the limestone. The second, with granitic soil in the area of Montmelas, gives it elegant mineral notes. A golden hue offering up white peach and apricot with good acid and length.
- 2017 Adelina** Chardonnay (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **50**
 Col McBryde has been working with small batches of Chardonnay for a number of years, although, until now, nothing had quite made the grade to be released under the Adelina label. Finally, he's found a first-rate grower (with the right postcode) that he can work with and thus the first Adelina Chardonnay has been born.
- 2017 Domaine Goisot Aligote** Aligote (D'Auxerre, France) **84**
 Aligoté is notorious for requiring old vines and the right soils to produce wines of quality, and Goisot's holdings nail the brief (parcels of 40 and 92 year old vines). The soils are made up of ancient clays, littered with fossilised oyster shells and limestone. A clean and precise bouquet with lime, flower scents, limestone and a whiff of sea spray. On the Palate expect a slightly waxy texture, lemon and tangerine notes all tied up with a dash of spice. A super fun textual wine and well worth a look.
- 2017 Bondar** Chardonnay (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **67**
 Andre Bondar worked with Nepenthe for seven vintages, so when it came to finding a quality source for Chardonnay in the Adelaide Hills, he knew exactly what he was after. Expect flinty, lean citrus and green apple notes, with some stone fruit. Nice, stony-minerally, fresh perfume. Palate is racy, crisp, light and sleek with mouthwatering green apple-white pear kind of feel with fine minerally characters to boot.
- 2018 Two Tonne Ziggurat** Chardonnay (Tamar Valley, Tasmania) **65**
 This is the first release of Ziggurat Chardonnay from, Ricky Evans. A portion of this wine was fermented on skins, in search of more interesting texture without resorting to intense oak for mouthfeel and this nails it, resulting in a more savoury, "smashable" version of Chardonnay.
- 2018 Garagiste Le Stagiaire** Chardonnay (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **54**
 This attractive Mornington Chardonnay is all P58 clone from Garagiste's Balnarring and Red Hill vineyards. The fruit was hand sorted in the vineyard and winery then whole bunch pressed, and the cloudy juice was transferred to a mixture of new and old puncheons to ferment using indigenous yeasts. The wine was matured on its lees in barrel for 9 months. It's a Chardonnay brimming with grapefruit pith, citrus and floral aromas. On the palate you get a brisk, refreshing shot of bright citrus and stone fruit, vibrant acidity, and a long, textured savoury finish.
- 2015 Flametree** Chardonnay (Margret River, Western Australia) **51**
 Chardonnay has rightfully made a significant come-back over the past few years and continues to be a product in high demand. Flametree has a wonderful combination of fine fruit flavours and tight structure, very much in line with the new wave of modern Australian Chardonnays. Dried pear, grapefruit, honeydew melon and fig flavours are beautifully supported by subtle French oak.

- 2016 Craiglee** Chardonnay (Sunbury, Victoria) **60**
 From what I consider to be one of the most under-rated vineyards in Victoria, this sublime Chardonnay is rich and vibrant, unctuous and luscious, all in equal measures. Superbly integrated fine oak, with notes of vanilla and cashews brimming to the fore. Juicy fruit flavours of ripe melon & grapefruit linger for quite some time.
- 2017 Arfion** Chardonnay (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **73**
 Arfion, meaning "our wine" in Scottish Gaelic is a small batch single vineyard, independently owned producer rolling out quality from Yarra Valley. The Chardonnay being an excellent example of what they're all about. Nutty, just ripe nectarine and white flower aromatics. A slightly savoury style with a textural mouthfeel and a lick of orange zest.
- 2014 Nicole Deriaux** Domaine De Montbourgeau Chardonnay (Jura, France) **107**
 Domaine de Montbourgeau vineyard was planted in 1920 by Nicole's grandfather. Since then it has produced traditional Jura wines. In 1956 Nicole's father, Jean Gros became the head of the family and took his turn developing the vineyard and the cellar. Then in 1986 some thirty years later it was finally time for Nicole to take part in the operation of the Domaine with her father. This is a wine for the ages. Acidity balanced with an underlying, concentrated body with complex notes of beeswax, honey and resin as well as some mineralogy. For those that haven't tried 'vin jaune' style Chardonnay, expect some fairly aggressive oxidation as it's made in a very similar style to sherry, developing under a flor-like strain of yeast.
- 2016 Oliver Morin** Circonstances Chardonnay (Burgundy, France) **76**
 Aromas of white flower and fresh citrusy notes. On the palate this classic Chardonnay is energetic and precise with a nice texture and a fruity character, balanced by great acidity. It truly expresses the mineral soils of Chitry with an elegant, fresh lime and salty finish.
- 2016 Six Parallel South** Chardonnay (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **72**
 Another winner for both Mark Sztar and more widely the Kosher wine drinking community. A Chardonnay that's right up my alley. Stone fruit, citrus and vanilla on the nose. Lemon, green apples and grapefruit with this rounding nuttiness on the palate. A wonderfully balanced circus forward Chardonnay. If you like young Chablis, this is for you.
- 2016 Bress** Chardonnay (Chablis, France) **115**
 Bress is a sustainable farming enterprise that strives collaboration with like-minded folks, both in Australia and over the pond. This 2016 Old Vine Chablis is one such endeavour. Vintage exchanges between Bress and a top tier Chablis winemaker and true gentleman, Guenole Breteau have resulted in greater cultural and winemaking awareness for both families, everyone a winner. plenty of acid balanced by wonderful fruit and lingering texture. A singing example of one of my favourite styles, made by some local legends.
- 2010 Bovier et Fils** Chardonnay (Chablis, France) **82**
 Apples, elegant florals and subtle tropicals float out of the glass with a hint of some savouriness, whilst in the mouth it's creamy and vibrant with frisky, citrusy acidity, and a dry, chalky finish. It would be awesome with just about any of our seafood offerings, particularly a few oysters.
- 2010 Domaine Parigot** Clos St Jean 1er Cr Chardonnay (Burgundy, France) **160**
 The hillside above Clos Saint-Jean is occupied by a large quarry, which serves to demonstrate the area's soil profile. This soil is pebbly and chalky, underpinned by the limestone that is found along most of the Cote d'Or. The porosity of the soil, as well as the slope of the hill, makes for good drainage, and vines will grow deep into the ground in search of moisture. This Premier Cru offers up layers of toasted almonds and caramel underscoring the baked apple, mineral and spice. A smooth creamy finish is cleansed by the fresh acidity and a tinge of pineapple, a finish that will send you back for another sip time and time again.
- 2008 De Montille** Pernand-Vergelesses Chardonnay (Burgundy, France) **128**
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- 2018 Gil Graves** Cabernet Sauvignon (Axedale, Victoria) **52**
 A pale golden peach colour with abundant aromatics, look apricot and rose petal. It features apricot, dried apple, strawberry and slight rosemary spice. Certainly what we'd call a more savoury style Rose, perfectly bent around something salty. Or for those that enjoy a funkier, bigger rose.
- 2018 Jean Paul Rosé** Shiraz, Merlot, Riesling (Mt Alexander, Victoria) **51**
 Made from Shiraz and Merlot (and his secret ingredient a little Riesling). This Rosé is barrel fermented with indigenous yeast, at first glance you might be worried as it shows a vibrant pink / ruby colour. The palate is far more reserved. Dry, fruit-driven rosé with flavours of cranberries and morello cherries. Only 285 bottles made so you might not see it again.

2017 AIX Saint Aix

Grenache, Syrah, Cinsault (Provence, France)

63

A fragrant and well balanced wine, AIX's hypnotising salmon pink colour reveals a fruity freshness and premium rosé. The nose is fresh and fragrant, delicate yet youthful and offers classy notes of watermelon, strawberries and flowers. Created using 30% of rosé bleeding and 70% direct pressing, the softest hint of Carignan was added to the classical Provence blend of Grenache, Syrah and Cinsault to give the 2016 vintage an even more profound depth. I looked long and hard for a brilliantly dry southern french style pink and this is what i have arrived on. do yourself a favour, grab a bottle with a couple of mates in the sunshine of the laneway one afternoon, you won't regret it.

N.V. Domaine De Courbissac L'Orange Field Blend

(Languedoc, France)

98

Organic L'Orange is a whole bunch, skin contact blend from two sources. Most of the fruit comes from a 70-90 year old field blend of old vine blanc and gris varieties, historically co-planted in limestone soils. While these include Terret Gris, Carignan Blanc, Macabeu and Grenache Gris, there are also a number of rare indigenous varieties planted here that they've got no idea about. Then there's also some Marsanne and Muscat Blanc from another site that bring top notes to the wine. fuzzy orchard fruit and tangy, ripe quince, balanced by a crisp acidity and a gently powdery, fragrant finish. "orange" I think in this case is a bit of a misdirect. Think of this as a wonderfully drinkable mediterranean wine with grip.

*"Wine makes daily living easier, less hurried,
with fewer tensions and more tolerance"
-Benjamin Franklin*