

Winter 2023

GRAPE PRESS

"In wine there is truth." — Roman Proverb

Red Alert at BACCHUS



The colors of autumn's foliage were spectacular this year. Truly a highlight of the season. **The reds especially were a wow and then some.**

"Dazzling Reds" could also have been the theme of this year's Bacchus Festival. Bacchus is The Wine Sellers' annual celebration and rollout of our fall and winter inventory, held at the Marina Grand Hotel on October 20.

Our guests were long-time patrons to first timers, but everyone was drawn to the reds. All Bacchus selections are the best of the best, but could it be that our guests were thinking a few weeks ahead to colder weather and bolder wines? (Our Fireside Wines can help with that!)

Continued on Pg 2



The winner of the most popular wine at Bacchus goes to ***the Gibbs 2020 Cabernet Franc (\$43.00)***. It went over big. Not a surprise – the winemaker has said the 2020 vintage “might be the biggest expression of Napa Valley Cabernet Franc that’s been made to date!”

This layered and complex wine is 96% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot. Attack shows bright red fruits with floral notes. Body shows blueberry, dark boysenberry, bitter chocolate and a touch of green bell pepper. Expect a big finish with some cracked pepper.

Gibbs sold out at Bacchus, and that was every bottle in Michigan! We expect to have limited availability in the shop, so don’t delay in purchasing yours.



Running close behind Gibbs was ***Alexander Valley Vineyards 2021 Cabernet Franc (\$34.00)***. It’s one of the few 100% Cabernet Francs in the region. Since its first vintage in 1996, it has been always one of the winemaker’s most anticipated releases. The wine features dark fruit aromas of black cherry, cola, plum, blueberry, vanilla and a hint of black olive. Cassis, plum, black cherry, vanilla and blueberry flavors lead to a long, structured finish.

The silky textured ***Domaine de Pallus 2017 Chinon, Les Pensées de Pallus (\$31.50)*** was another leader at Bacchus. You’ll note the pure, intense bouquet of spicy red and dark berries, and mineral and floral aromas. Fresh on the palate, full-bodied and juicy, this Cabernet Franc is an absolute treasure from the Loire Valley.

The lush ***Trentadue 2020 La Storia Estate Bottled Petite Sirah (\$35.00)*** was another crowd pleaser. The blueberry/blackberry flavors jump out! Jammy, juicy, fruit flavors are so rich, they tame the impressive fine-grained tannins, balancing the wine. Drink now through 2040.

The ruby red ***Alcesti 2020 Nero D’Avola Nesos (\$18.95)*** is from Sicily. Characterized by an aroma of red-berried fruits with notes of spices and vanilla, it is rich and persistent on the palate with a pleasant note of tartness, typical of this grape variety.



Our thanks go to our distributors and importers who participated in Bacchus: **Great Lakes Wine and Spirits, Woodberry Wine, Imperial Beverage, Old Bridge Cellars, Carmela Fine Wines and AHD Vintners.**

The Wine Sellers is already looking ahead to 2024’s Summer Tasting and Bacchus events, and you should, too! In one enjoyable evening, you can taste through a curated selection of superb wines, get the skinny on them from our knowledgeable reps, mingle with wine lovers like yourself, and come home with your favorite choices, offered at significant price discounts available only during the event.

SIMPLY ITALIAN, *Simply Great*

Jacqui was a busy bee at the Simply Italian Great Wines U.S. Tour 2023 in Chicago. The three master classes she attended were outstanding. The centerpiece of the event, the grand tasting, was a goldmine of ground-level insight into the 2023 vintage, as well as networking opportunities with wineries, importers and export managers.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR TO ENJOY ITALIAN TREASURES.
THE FOLLOWING WERE FEATURED AT THIS YEAR'S BACCHUS:



***Casanova di Neri 2019
Rosso Toscana IGT
(\$26.50)***

Made from young Brunello (sangiovese grosso) grapes, blended with a small portion of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Notes of berries, cherries, walnuts, tree bark with black truffle. Medium/full body with firm, solid tannins. Limited availability.



***Bava Ruché Castagnole
Monferrato 2020
(\$29.95)***

Aromatic with scents of rose and violet, distinct spicy notes of white pepper. The palate is balanced and persistent; blackberry, raspberry, and ripe plum flavors mingle with undertones of spice, such as black pepper. Totally cool grape!



***Conterno Fantino 2018
Barbera D'Alba Vignota
(\$39.00)***

A big hit at Bacchus. Midnight black core with a deep dark red hue. Aromas of black cherry, blackberry and licorice mingle with scorched earth, fragrant herb and spicy vanilla notes. Medium to full bodied, vibrant acidity. Slightly chalky tannins with fresh herbs, earth and spice on the back half.



***Malvira S.S. Trinita
Roero Arneis 2021
(\$26.00)***

Fresh and fruity bouquet with hints of peach, elder flower, acacia and aromatic herbs. Taste is crisp, fresh and sapid, structured and perfectly balanced with a great tangy finish.

FIRESIDE WINES

Who might be invited to sit around the hearth when you open a Fireside Wine?

Loved ones, dear friends, new friends, good neighbors and colleagues. Who is on the DO NOT INVITE list? Old Man Winter, Jack Frost and Krampus! The Wine Sellers' Fireside Wines are big, bold and cheerful enough to keep winter on the outside looking in.



Trig Point 2021 Merlot Diamond Dust Vineyard (\$32.50)

Merlot is back! Bold and concentrated with red fruit, dark chocolate and bacon on the nose. Red plum, red currant, blackberry and spicy clove flavors with a full, round mouthfeel and nice soft tannins. Lots of love given to Trig Point at Bacchus.

Barone Montalto Ammasso 2017 (\$38.50)

If there ever was a Fireside Wine, this Sicilian beauty is a shoe-in. Ultra-rich blend of Nero d'Avola, Nerello Mascalese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Velvety and lush, with notes of prunes and black berries. The palate is gently balanced and full-bodied with an Amarone-like finish.



Soléna Estate 2022 Pinot Gris (\$26.00)

A classic Pinot Gris, with aromas of peaches, lemon peels and a floral note reminiscent of gardenias. Flavors of peach, ginger, spearmint tea and honey glide along a smooth texture. A longtime favorite of The Wine Sellers. The President of Soléna, Anthony Van Nice, is a pal from Lakeside!



Richard Böcking Riesling Devon 2019 (\$29.00)

A treat for my Riesling lovers. A cuvée that is dry, a little racy, well-balanced with pleasant mineral qualities. A slight whiff of petrol followed by juicy lime on the attack. Sparkling acidity with a mouthwatering finish.



Hestan 2017 Chardonnay (\$62)

Hestan's first wine produced by esteemed Napa Valley winemaker Thomas Rivers Brown. An impeccable balance of flavor and structure. Tropical fruits with notes of lemon zest, pineapple, and hazelnut, and a full, round mouthfeel. A whopping 14.1% alcohol, yet so balanced that you hardly feel the sheer weight of it from start to its long, elegant finish. Only 350 cases produced.



Welcome, JOHN DUVAL

It was an honor to be invited to Chicago for one of the most interesting functions of the fall season: a reception, luncheon and tasting with John and his son Tim Duval of John Duval Wines.

John Duval is one of Australia's most highly regarded winemakers. He has been named UK Wine and Spirit Competition's International Winemaker of the Year, Red Winemaker of the Year (twice) and has received Wine Spectator's Wine of the Year award.



You can taste Duval quality at the shop with the **Duval 2019 Plexus SGM (\$46.50)**, featured at Bacchus 2023. A blend of 45% shiraz, 32% grenache and 23% Mourvèdre, it offers velvety layers of red and black fruits, with underlying notes of licorice, cinnamon and a hint of smokey oak on the nose. Gentle tannins finish long and pure.



Tim and John Duval



GIFT A BASKET, GIFT A BOX



Let The Wine Sellers create wine-themed gift baskets for you this holiday season.

They make memorable, personalized gifts, whether for loved ones or business associates. At your choosing, wine gift baskets are even more impressive when they're gift boxes – **packaged in a genuine wine box!**



January is Sale Month

Make a resolution to visit The Wine Sellers for our annual January sale. Enjoy discounts throughout the shop that change every day!

WINES TO WATCH



Bailly Lapierre Crémant de Bourgogne Brut (\$27.50)

An elegant alternative to champagne, this “Blanc de Noirs” – a white made mainly from black Pinot Noir grapes – is Bailly Lapierre’s hallmark wine. A Crémant (French sparkling wine made outside the Champagne wine region) of powerful character, full bodied with red berry fruits and crisp acidity.



2021 Chappellet 'Mountain Cuvee' Proprietary Red (\$62)

The Wine Sellers is pleased to have Napa Valley’s Chappellet once again. 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot, 14% Merlot, 12% Malbec, 5% Cabernet Franc. Aromatic, with notes of red currant, boysenberry, cassis, roasted coffee and dark chocolate, with savory undertones of sweet oak. Rich and mouthcoating on the palate.



Ottella 2021 Le Creete (\$23.50)

A delicious white wine with an amazing, creamy texture. Exotic notes of pineapple, grapefruit, white blossoms, with delicate minerality. Subtle on the palate, rich with minerality. Offers finesse, yet with a strong character.

For more immediate, time-sensitive news, follow [The Wine Sellers on Facebook](#).



www.thewinesellersmichigan.com



Every day is
10-percent day!
Buy one case
(even mix
or match),
10-percent off!

16409 B Red Arrow Hyw, Union Pier, Michigan 49129

Winter hours you'll find us in the shop most weekends. Just to make sure, phone first at (269) 469-7566.

We will be on hiatus February, March and April.

We accept American Express, VISA, Mastercard, Discover and Diners Club.

The Wine Sellers is wheelchair accessible.