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Your Source of Wine for Every Occasion

Notes From The Cellar "NFTC" Newsletter

April 25, 2010

 Forward to a Friend

The 93 Point 2005 Sang -we managed to find a little more!

Happy Earth day to all. I hope you get to ponder it over a bottle of wine tonight, after all it's one of the finest items that can be produced from our beautiful planet, and more and more of it is done in an environmentally friendly way.

About a month ago I featured a great wine from the great vintage of 2005 in the Rhone region. It was offered on a Friday afternoon and unfortunately quite a few of you missed it. I have had 2 bottles of this since, and I keep scratching my head at the quality this offers: what a great bottle of wine! With all the great accolades the 2007 wines from this region got, there were a few amazing picks at crazy prices to be had from 2005: This is unquestionably one of the finest deals I encountered. We got lucky, I managed to snag a little more of this. Here is a repeat of our Mar 26th newsletter. If you missed it the first go around, here is a chance at a few remaining bottles. To keep it short I only included the text here -the full original NFTC can be reviewed in the Newsletter tab of our web site or [here](#)

One of the finest Southern Rhones -opportunity!

"Serge Ferigoule's Domaine Sang des Cailloux is, by most credible accounts, the leading estate of Vacqueyras." -Robert Parker

Back in the early 1990's in recognition of the unique richness and quality of it's wines, the Cote du Rhone village of Vacqueyras received its own appellation status. During those days American Importer **Kermit Lynch** from Berkeley was building what has become the source for some of the best traditional wines from Southern France. Focusing on passionate and dedicated producers and realizing the fabulous quality that can be archived, Kermit built one of the finest imported portfolios by signing up some of the best producers, amongst them Tempier in Bandol, Vieux Telegraph from CNDP and Sang des Cailloux in Vacqueyras. Over the years these wines became household names with US wine collectors.

Sang Des Cailloux(roughly translated to the blood of the stones) has become one of the most desired producers: The sheer quality of their wines rivals, and in many cases surpass many of the wines produced in the more famous and established addresses of Chateaufort. What makes them even more special is how well they age, and the great window of drinkability the wines poses. The wines are big and plush at release and with time become more elegant harmonious and nuanced. These wines sell out quickly on release especially from great vintages. From my personal experience of drinking these wines (over 10 years now) I would say that they are often

under- rated when reviewed early in their lives.. When I was offered a very rare stash of their top bottling from one of the best vintages -no other than the **Cuvee de Lopy, made from 40-50 year old vines**, I quickly grabbed everything that was available.

\$\$\$ Today's Wine Deal \$\$\$

Domaine le SANG DES CAILLOUX, Vacqueyras Cuvée Lopy 2005

\$46.50/bottle, or \$44- / bottle- with our cash discount (checks are ok)

The Deal: Current new releases of the Cuvee de Lopy average in the mid 60's. The average selling price of the 2005 is around \$80. At today's offer we are close to half of this price, and even below the original suggested release price of that vintage.

In stock and ready for your enjoyment over the upcoming holidays, or, stash some to enjoy over the next 15 years -you really can't go wrong here. Quantities are very limited.

Robert Parker in the Wine Advocate: 93 Points:"One of the great Vacqueyras of the vintage is the 2005 Vacqueyras Cuvee du Lopy. A blend of 75% Grenache and 25% Syrah, all from 40- to 50+-year-old vines, this wine has a wonderfully smoky, earthy nose of truffle juice, blackberries, cherries, meats, and Provencal herbs. Some forest floor and flowers are also there. Deep, sumptuous, rich, dense, with moderately high but sweet tannin, this is a sensational Vacqueyras to drink over the next 10-15 years.

With 42 acres, Domaine Sang des Cailloux seems to make the argument with each vintage that it is the top producer in Vacqueyras. "

Thanks for all your support and referrals.

Tell your friends, share the wine, & spread the good vibe. Cheers!

Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

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Please note that you must be at least 21 years old to order or receive alcohol from this newsletter. All orders require the signature of a person at least 21 years of age.