



Dear Client,

Happy Lunar New Year! The Year of the Rabbit symbolizes new beginnings, and we fittingly celebrate with **Acker's first Hong Kong sale of the 2023 auction season!** We'll be in **Hong Kong live on Friday evening, February 10th at 6pm** to get your year started off on the right rabbit's foot with luck and prosperity! Bidders will discover good fortune in featured collections including **The Return of the Emperor, Bordeaux & Burgundy from a Longstanding Hong Kong Collector and Wines Direct from the Cellars of Domaine Duroche!**

It is with distinct honor that we present to you **The Return of the Emperor Starring a Spectacular Selection of Bordeaux and Burgundy in Lots 317-577**, including over one hundred lots of **Domaine de la Romanee Conti!** The Emperor has hosted many epic wine evenings with endless finest wines that I have had the distinction of attending. His wine empire's reach is far and long and not for the tepid traveler. He offers nearly three hundred selections that feel more like three thousand with their quality and gravitas thanks to his temperature-controlled cellar. Bordeaux showcases nearly eighty lots including contemporary classics and modern masters from the likes of **Haut Brion, Lafleur and Le Pin**, and legendary wines of yesteryear including 1959s and 1961s with large formats abounding. There are thirty spectacular selections of **Petrus** arching over 1953 to 2005 crested by 1961 in bottle and magnum as well as 1970 Jeroboam, 1982 double magnum, 1989 in bottle and magnum, and three formats of 1998 up to double magnum!!! Red Burgundy heralds over one hundred forty selections and, yes, there are over 100 selections of **DRC!** The centerpiece is forty lots from La Tache going back to a legendary jeroboam of 1971! Grands Echezeaux, Richebourg and Romanee St. Vivant also regale us, and there are twenty-seven scintillating selections of the grandest monopole of them all, DRC Romanee-Conti, centering a magnum of 1971, three bottles of 1978, three bottles of 1988, six bottles of 1990, and six bottles of 2006! Surrounding the focal point of DRC are even more distinguished Red Burgundy selections from **Rousseau, Comte Liger-Belair, Leroy, Jayer, and Mugnier**. We also welcome a White Burgundy wonderland of over fifty entries as **Coche-Dury** hits blackjack with 21 lots backed by 19 lots of DRC Montrachet!! Every lot is worthy of the Royal Court, thanks to the collecting prowess of The Emperor!!! Thank you to the Emperor for this lifetime of wine!!!



We are also very fortunate, in **lots 298-316**, to offer wines Direct from the Cellars of **Domaine Duroche**. One of the most exciting developments in Gevrey Chambertin has been the emergence of young winemaker Pierre Duroché. Pierre has slowly taken over from his father Gilles, quietly and steadfastly producing some of the most exceptional wines in Gevrey. The fifth generation in his family's lineage of winemakers, Pierre eschews the modernist approach to new oak in order to make delicate and detailed wines throughout the Domaine's 8.25 hectares. This impressive selection commences with a vertical of **Aux Etelois**, only one barrel made per vintage and ideally located between Griotte Chambertin and Charmes Chambertin. There are large formats of **En Vosne**, another rare Gevrey Chambertin which is not commercially released. Wines from cuvees where only a single barrel were produced include 2018 **Estournelles St. Jacques** Jeroboam, 2019 **Lavaut St. Jacques** VV magnum (from old vines planted in 1923), and 2019 Latricieres Chambertin magnum!! Recently, Pierre and Marianne added a micro négoce that allows them to offer different wines while strictly respecting the same philosophy and quality as the wines from the Domaine. These wines are from grapes overlooked and carefully selected by Pierre as well as vines sourced from Marianne's family holdings. We have the **Echezeaux** and an extremely rare magnum of 2020 **Chambertin** from 1 barrel and only 100 magnums made. Further rarities include a darling of collectors, 2015 and 2020 **Griottes Chambertin**, with only a little over 100 bottles produced each year! We culminate with a very special 2020 magnum of **Clos de Beze "Hommage à Philippe"** which was produced in honor of Pierre's grandfather



who was born in 1920. Only 1 barrel was produced, bottled as 150 magnums, and this wine will never be made again! Thank you Pierre and Marianne Duroche!

In lots 1-67, we highlight **Bordeaux and Burgundy Triumphs Featuring Lafite from a Longstanding Hong Kong Collector**, a magnificent collection from a loyal customer who has been with us since our first auction in Asia! Our astute investor comes through bigtime with sixty plus lots of recent triumphs in Bordeaux and Burgundy with a Champagne toast finale. These delectable selections gallop over parcels of **Lafite**, including multiple case parcels from the 2005, 2006, and 2007 vintages. There are further cases of 2000 **Mouton**, 2006 **Palmer** and 2003 **Pavie** as well as two six-packs of 2010 **Petrus**, a six-pack of 2004 Le Pin, and dueling 2004 and 2006 **Duclot** Assortment cases. The 2008 vintage in Red Burgundy shows charm and class with full cases of **Rousseau** and **Roumier** Charmes Chambertin. **Domaine de la Romanee Conti** gets its due with a 1997 DRC Assortment as well as 2002 Richebourg and Romanee Conti. We go from strength to strength with 2006 **Comte Liger-Belair** Reignots magnums, 1995 **Bachelet** Charmes, and two cases each of 2000 and 2004 **Clos de Tart**. White Burgundy chimes in with 2004 DRC Montrachet and we clink glasses with 1996 **Bollinger** RD and **Salon**! All wines removed from professional storage for this triumphant collection which will kick off the first auction of the Lunar New Year in celebratory style.

Please join us to mark the beginning of the coming auction season live from **Hong Kong on Friday, February 10th at 6pm**. Cheers to your health and great wine, and happiness and prosperity to all in the New Year!  
新年快樂!

In Vino Veritas,

John Kapon  
Chairman, Acker Merrall & Condit Companies

