



Dear Client,

Happy holidays! There is no break in Acker's workshop, for after closing out the 2022 auction season once again as the **leading fine wine auction house in the world**, Acker is launching 2023 in stellar fashion with our **"Three Kings" auction**, a three-day US sale on January 17th-19th featuring three spectacular collections on three consecutive nights!!! Over one thousand lots and an estimated \$6M+ in sales include **Finest Burgundian Terroirs from The Principal; Royal Treasures of a Lifelong Burgundy Lover**; and the third installment of **The Exceptional Cellar of John Tilson**.



There is no better way to commence our Three Kings Auction than by welcoming back The Principal, a real estate investor who has graced our auction catalogs before. In this thrilling installment of **Finest Burgundian Terroirs from The Principal, lots 1-308**, he evinces the finest Burgundian terroirs from **Rousseau, Romanee Conti** and **Roumier**, as well as newer stars such as **Olivier Bernstein** and **Prieure-Roch**. Our articulate collector is always precise in his wine acquisitions, encompassing the very best vineyards in the region. He has made great investments in Burgundy as well as real estate by concentrating on the principle of location, location, location!!! Accordingly, he comes through splendidly with more than three hundred (300!) selections of primarily Red Burgundy spearheaded by a majestic 125 plus lots of Domaine de la Romanee Conti (many in original wood case), as well as White Burgundy, Bordeaux, Champagne, and Riesling. All the magnificent vineyards of DRC are present among the selections from THE Domaine, including the newest acquisition Corton, and the depth of rare magnums is impressive! Red Burgundy continues to reign with the aforementioned Domaines as well as **Leroy, Dujac**, and **Faiveley**, and white Burgundy is crowned by **Bouchard, Coche-Dury, DRC Montrachet**, and **Domaine Leflaive**. Additional highlights in our first King's realm include large format **Bordeaux**, Champagne from **Krug, Salon** and **Bollinger**, top **Riesling**, and some **Italian** gems to further augment the collection. This is a tremendous principal investment that banks on the principle of terroir in Burgundy. A great lesson, indeed! The rare large formats on offer are remarkable, especially all the magnums of Domaine de la Romanee Conti. La Paulee fans take note!!! All wines removed from professional storage for this anything but elementary collection.

Our second King, **Royal Treasures of a Lifelong Burgundy Lover featuring Georges Mugneret-Gibourg with Dujac, Faiveley, Fourrier and Drouhin** offers five hundred (500!) plus selections in **lots 309-856**. This connoisseur has Burgundy flowing through his veins and his finger on the pulse of the fine wine market. Nearly every lot here could be deemed a vinous treasure, the coverage and depth of producers, vintages, and rarities is amazing, and the tremendous amount of large format bottles is quite rare. Our lifelong Burgundy collector is also a gourmand who has traveled to the region often, a gentleman who is extremely knowledgeable and deeply connected. His interest in wine began forty years ago, and he began collecting thirty years ago, making many friends who often bought at the famous Hospices de Beaune auctions. He is a collector of significant gravitas garnering significant allocations. Collecting is in his blood, and wine is one of many collections of rarities that he maintains, but wine and especially Burgundy is his first love. Most wines were bought directly in France and when he bought at auction, it was often the largest collections at the biggest sales. There are nearly four hundred lots of Red Burgundy including a centerpiece of ninety selections from the tiny and adored jewel of **Georges Mugneret-Gibourg** crowned by a significant offering



of rare large formats. This is by far the greatest and largest selection of Georges Mugneret-Gibourg we have ever offered!!! This tremendous selection of Mugneret-Gibourg is complemented by a dozen selections of **Dujac**, twenty selections of **Faiveley**, a sweet sixteen of **Fourrier**, and two dozen lots of **Drouhin** amongst many, many others. The vast majority of wines stored in professional temperature-controlled storage with a small portion in the consignor's temperature-controlled home cellar. All in all, this featured collection is a French National Treasure, a spectacular collection of connoisseur's wines from Burgundy and beyond. A royal collection, indeed!

We march on with the third installment of **The Exceptional Cellar of John Tilson**, our third King featuring **DRC, Leroy, Ancient Bordeaux**, and **Classic California**. In **lots 857-1072**, it is our distinct honor and great pleasure once again to present over 200 selections from this exceptional cellar. Mr. Tilson has worn many hats through the years including being a prominent investment manager, longtime wine collector, and owner, founder, and editor of **The Underground Wine Letter**. John's sincere passion for wine and his outstanding wine tasting prowess is matched only by his lifelong appreciation for the finer things in life, which led him around the globe to experience the world's finest restaurants and unparalleled wine cellars. Back in the 1970s, he was welcomed at the top Chateaux in Bordeaux and the best Domaines in Burgundy and beyond, and he tasted many vintages straight from the barrel. Mr. Tilson was among the first to convince California wineries to allow him to do the same, obtaining the keys to the cellar of some of the most iconic Napa Valley estates. His **Underground Wine Letter**, fittingly dedicated to "wine, food & the good life" covers only the finest wines and rose to popularity for being consumer-focused, straightforward, and honest. There are numerous scarcities on offer, including decades of Classified Growth Bordeaux highlighted by many 20<sup>th</sup> century legends, if magnums of **1953 & 1959 Lafite Rothschild** are your cup of tea. How about magnums of **1947 La Mission, 1948 Palmer**, or **1966 Lafleur**? Any selection from Mr. Tilson's cellar is required reading! Burgundy centers on more than thirty selections of **Domaine de la Romanee Conti** back to **1966 RC** in magnum, **1978 La Tache** and **1971 Rcihebourg** in magnum, and much more! There are double-digit selections of **Rousseau, Leroy**, and **Roumier** including eight vintages of Musigny! The red carpet of exceptional Red Burgundy continues with **Dujac, Vogue, La Romanee, Clair-Dau, Georges Mugneret, Jean Gros, Mugnier, Meo-Camuzet, Arnoux**, and **Engel** and white Burgundy proudly encompasses **DRC Montrachet, Ramonet Montrachet**, and **Raveneau Les Clos**! Truly Classic Cali back is highlighted by **Diamond Creek, Heitz, Inglenook**, and **Ridge**, and includes some of California's rarest older wines! John Tilson's exceptional cellar has been built over a half-century of tasting and collecting. The cellar itself is an impressive three rooms, all underground, kept dark and vibration free at 54 degrees with good humidity, just below the level of inducing mold. We are privileged and excited to represent this important collection of the finest wines on the planet for your bidding and drinking pleasure!

All hail our Three Kings!!! Don't miss this three evening extravaganza **Tuesday through Thursday January 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>** live online from Delaware. Cheers to your health, great wine, and a healthy and prosperous new year!!!

In Vino Veritas,

John Kapon  
Chairman, Acker Merrall & Condit Companies