



Dear Client,

One of my favorite weeks of the year is **La Paulée**, and it is here again! The wines and camaraderie with both producers and collectors are hard to top, and this year marks the milestone 25th anniversary, so we get to double our pleasure on both coasts with Paulees in San Francisco and New York! By the way, if you haven't signed up for the gala yet, what are you waiting for? I will be at both, and you can get tickets at www.lapaulee.com.

We are thrilled to host **our third La Paulée auction on Thursday, March 6 and Saturday, March 8, featuring nearly 2,000 exceptional lots and an estimated \$10 million in sales!** This two-day extravaganza brings together **eighteen direct consignments** from some of **Burgundy's most esteemed producers**, alongside some highly significant featured collections. No collection is closer to our hearts than **The Last of the Legendary Personal Collection of Martine Saunier**, who recently left us this year shortly after celebrating her 91st birthday. We have republished her obituary inside, which is an inside look at the amazing life she led. It is truly a bittersweet moment for all of us here at Acker, but Martine would have wanted us to forget the bitter and celebrate her life and collection to the fullest, so that is what we will do. As always, she has shared many bottles from her collection to share throughout the weeks in SF and NYC, all the more reason to get on out and join us for two weeks of celebrations filled with **incredible tastings, lunches, and dinners**, all integral to what has become the **world's greatest Burgundy wine party**. In addition to these extraordinary events hosted by both La Paulée and Acker, we look forward to hosting **two exclusive bidding parties in New York** on the 6th and 8th!



Martine's collection is also joined by two more than impressive cellars: **A Legendary Offering from an Iconic New York Collector and The Exceptional Collection of a Jet-Setting Connoisseur**. We can't wait to share with you what's inside this catalog! Of course, the roster of distinguished producers offering wines **direct from their cellars** in the La Paulée auction is nothing short of extraordinary. Highlighted on day two with nearly 150 exceptional selections from **lots 1797-1944**, the lineup reads like a who's who of Burgundy, featuring **Joseph Drouhin, Bachelet-Monnot, Ballot-Millot, Antoine Jobard, Alex Moreau, Pierre Morey, Pierre-Yves Colin Morey, Camille Thiriet, Clerget, Henri Gouges, Hubert Lignier, Duroche, Dugat-Py, Fourrier, Faiveley, De Montille, Comte Liger-Belair and Dujac**. We are absolutely delighted about this superb assortment of the best of Burgundy, direct from their cellars to yours!

On February 9, 2025, the wine world lost a true icon. Martine Saunier, the pioneering importer who transformed how we experience Burgundy and beyond, passed away at ninety-one, leaving behind an immeasurable legacy. Just over a year ago, we celebrated her 90th birthday in New York with two unforgettable dinners. It was both a privilege and an honor to work with her numerous times over the last two decades, including this grand finale. She had a significant impact on me and all of those that were lucky enough to work with her. Now, we honor her one last time with the final chapter of her legendary personal collection—a breathtaking selection of over 165 extraordinary selections spanning four decades of Burgundy greatness (1962–2006), alongside Rhone icons and rare Port: **The Last of the Legendary Collection of Martine Saunier, lots 1624-1789**.

Martine's name is synonymous with **Henri Jayer**, Burgundy's most celebrated winemaker. She was the trusted source for his wines in America for fifty years, importing her first Jayer shipment in 1975. This auction features a breathtaking fifty-three lots of Jayer, including 1993 Vosne-Romanée Cros Parantoux magnums and bottles from 1978, 1991, and 2001, along with twenty-three selections of Echezeaux! Also included are nearly thirty lots of **Rouget** featuring magnums of Cros Parantoux. While championing Jayer's wines, Martine formed a remarkable partnership with Lalou Bize-Leroy in 1986. Lalou entrusted her with some of the world's most coveted Burgundies, from **Maison Leroy and Domaine Leroy** to the personal treasures of **Domaine d'Auvenay**. This consignment includes rare gems such as 1993 Leroy Romanée St. Vivant and Richebourg. Beyond Burgundy, Martine's collection includes an astonishing forty lots of **Château Rayas**—a producer she championed for over fifty years! Highlights include twelve-bottle cases of 1995 and 1998 Châteauneuf-du-Pape, as well



as six bottles of the legendary 1990. To sweeten the deal, the collection includes a couple of lots of **Niepoort** Vintage Port, both a personal favorite and dear friend of hers.

Every bottle in this sale comes directly from Martine's private collection, where they have been ideally kept in professional storage in California and a home cellar in Burgundy. In keeping with her generous spirit, a portion of the proceeds will benefit **Doctors Without Borders** and **an educational endowment for young women in wine**, ensuring her influence extends to future generations. This is a rare chance to own a piece of history, courtesy of one of the most important and influential wine personalities of the 20th century. Seeing Martine's name on a bottle was always a guarantee of quality, and through Martine's Wines, her legacy continues. Rest in peace, Martine. Thank you for everything.

Day one of the sale greets us with **A Legendary Offering from an Iconic New York Collector Featuring Breathtaking Bordeaux, Burgundy and Incredible Champagne in lots 334-755**. This is part three in a series from one of America's greatest collections—a selection of over four hundred extraordinary lots including historic vintages and modern legends! This iconic collector is a gentleman who has drunk the best of the best for the past 25 years right by my side. He has built his collection over a lifetime, having many purchases vetted by experts and sourcing from only known collectors, merchants and auction houses, and all kept in professional storage. This may be the last offer you see from this collection for a long time, so extra special attention is recommended!

The Bordeaux selection reaches back more than a century to include 1919 **Haut Brion** and the legendary 1945 vintage **Cheval Blanc** spans 1929 to a magnum of 2000, while additional highlights include 1959 **Lafite**, 1948 **Pétrus**, 1966 **Lafleur** in magnum, and stunning bottles of 1959 and 1961 **Latour!** The Burgundy selection is nothing short of spectacular, stealing the show with nearly one hundred and fifty lots anchored by a historic 1919 **Vogue** Grand Musigny!! **Domaine de la Romanée Conti** commands attention with fifty-three selections spanning eight decades, 1938–2019, including twelve lots of Romanée-Conti and fourteen La Tâche. **Rousseau** is also well represented with forty-three stunning selections, and additional treasures are on the block from **Dujac, Roumier, Bizot, Clair-Dau, Fourrier, Comte Liger-Belair, and Mugnier** spanning both legendary vintages and aged rarities. The Champagne offering is, as always from this collector, unparalleled, with two hundred lots of some of the most sought-after bottles in existence. Fifty **Krug** offerings lead the way, from a rare 1929 Private Cuvée to the legendary 2002 Clos du Mesnil. Over forty **Louis Roederer** lots date back to 1928, and the collection also boasts twenty-one lots of **Salon!!** Other standouts include mighty Methuselahs of 2005 and 2006 **Taittinger** Comtes de Champagne, **Dom Pérignon** dating back to 1955, and rarities like 1934 **Pol Roger** and 1945 **Pommery**. Notable selections from **Giacosa, Conterno, Gaja, Vega Sicilia, and Heitz Martha's Vineyard** bring us home, with vintages spanning from 1941 to 1978. This truly is a legendary offering from an iconic New York collector, showcasing breathtaking Burgundy, historic Bordeaux, extraordinary Champagne, and more!!!

The Exceptional Collection of a Jet-Setting Connoisseur, in lots 1500-1623, hails from a collector born and raised in New York who spent decades traveling across Asia and Europe in search of extraordinary bottles to drink and enjoy. His wine journey began over twenty-five years ago at Montrachet in Tribeca, where sommeliers sent guests home with wine labels as keepsakes. From there, unforgettable dinners at Bouley—including a legendary 1961 Bordeaux tasting—deepened his passion. Travels led to a love of Super Tuscans, California Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, and ultimately, an unwavering love of Burgundy. That devotion is unmistakable in this selection of one hundred and twenty-four fantastic lots! Twenty-three lots of **Comte Liger-Belair**, featuring 2009 Vosne-Romanée Aux Brulees and Aux Reignots, plus 2019 La Romanée, all in original packaging, lead the way. Seventeen **Domaine Leroy** treasures from the 1990s include 1993 Vosne-Romanée Aux Brulees and 1996 Romanée St. Vivant, and a dozen **Rousseau** lots feature coveted six-bottle OCBs of 2005 and 2015 Chambertin. Other Burgundy gems include **d'Auvenay** Bonnes Mares, **DRC** Romanée St. Vivant, and iconic bottles from **Dujac, Rouget, Jayer, Hudelot-Noellat, Prieure-Roch, and Groffier**, while White Burgundy dazzles with selections from **Leflaive and Ramonet**.



There is a Champagne intermission from **Krug**, followed by verticals of **Masseto**. Cult California icons make their mark, with **Screaming Eagle**, **Sine Qua Non** and **Kongsgaard The Judge**. A noteworthy collection from a dedicated foodie who knows how to live and drink exceptionally!

There is so much more inside – two collections of Coche-Dury come to mind 😊 Don't miss our third **La Paulée auction on Thursday, March 6 and Saturday, March 8**, with nearly 2,000 selections of the finest and rarest wines and weeks of epic Burgundy celebrations. Join us in San Francisco and New York City, and don't forget to sign up for some events at www.lapaulee.com!!

Cheers to your health and to great wine!

In Vino Veritas,

John Kapon
Chairman, Acker Merrall & Condit Companies

