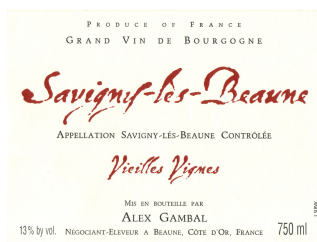


Wine Spectator Insider

A Members-Only, Biweekly Publication

Marvin R. Shanken, Editor and Publisher

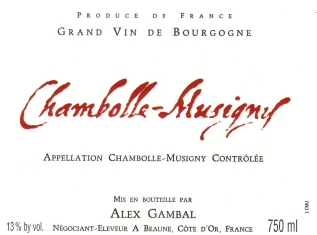
FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES



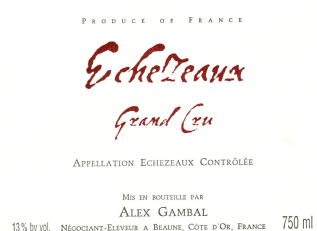
2005 Vintage

Don't Overlook the Chardonnay

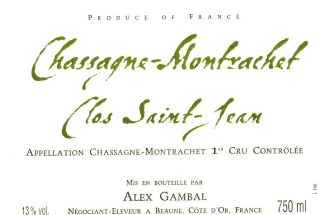
Posted: 03:07 AM ET, February 01, 2007



Négociant Alex Gambal moved into a new facility in 2005, just in time for the harvest. The range here is the best I have tasted since the fine 2002s. Though it's not a big range, Gambal has been successful in sourcing some old-vine grapes and wines for his lineup. The Savigny-lès-Beaune Vieilles Vignes is a case in point. Pure and rich, with a sappy midpalate of black cherry, it shows the success of the vintage across all appellations.



The Chambolle-Musigny is alluring, with an elegant expression of flowers and cherry. The Echézeaux is deep and spicy in character, very masculine, displaying black cherry notes.



Gambal's Clos St.-Jean and Maltroie, both from Chassagne-Montrachet, illustrate two contrasting styles from that village. The Clos St.-Jean is always the flatterer, opulent and honeyed, with shades of toast, lime and hazelnut. The Maltroie is intense and structured, with more mineral notes, but also needs time to come together.

