

17 Février 2010

**Domaine du Vissoux**

**2008 Beaujolais Cuvee Pierre Chermette** (\$16) Light, bright purple. Lively, finely etched red berry aromas are complemented by dried rose and white pepper. Light in body and crisp, offering racy strawberry and bitter cherry flavors and a fine-grained texture. Its finishing crispness and sappy persistence make this Beaujolais easy to drink. **87**

**2008 Beaujolais Vieilles Vignes Cuvee Traditionelle** (\$18) Light, bright purple. Sexy aromas of strawberry, raspberry, cinnamon and allspice, plus a strong floral overlay; reminds me of a sexy wine from Burgundy. Light, lively and focused, offering sweet red fruit flavors and a jolt of baking spices on the back end. Very attractive wine with good finishing lift and mineral cut. **89**

**2008 Brouilly Pierreux** (\$27) Light, bright red. Exotically perfumed bouquet of raspberry, incense and potpourri. Fresh, finely etched red berry flavors are complicated by notes of candied rose and spicecake, with tangy minerality adding spine. The finish is clean, focused and impressively long, leaving sweet red fruit notes behind. **90**

**2008 Fleurie Poncie** (\$28) Vivid red. Very expressive aromas of raspberry, cherry, rose and spicecake. Lively, finely etched red fruit and candied flower flavors gain depth and sweetness with air, picking up notes of blackberry and cola. Leaves lush dark fruits behind on the long, sweet finish. This is deep and rich enough to handle a strongly seasoned beef dish. **89**

**2008 Fleurie Les Garants** (\$28) Bright red. Highly perfumed bouquet of cherry and berry skin, anise and smoky herbs. Richer and chewier than the Poncie, offering powerful, slightly tannic cherry and blackcurrant flavors. Becomes firmer on the finish, which features a spicy note of cracked pepper. Decant this or hold it for another couple of years. **90(+?)**

**2007 Brouilly Pierreux** (\$26) Deep, bright red. Explosively perfumed aromas of raspberry, potpourri, Asian spices and smoky minerals. Juicy red fruit flavors are braced by zesty minerality and show an exotic candied rose quality. There are no tannins to get in the way of immediate gratification, and the finish is tangy, focused and sneakily sweet. **90**

**2007 Fleurie Poncie** (\$27) Deep, vivid red. Peppery redcurrant and cherry aromas are complemented by musky underbrush, minerals and dried flowers. Initially sweet, with deep red and dark berry flavors, then picks up an earthy element and shows a note of bitter cherry skin on the back end. The sweetness returns on the finish, which is nicely spicy and persistent. I'd serve this with richer foods. **89**

**2007 Fleurie Les Garants** (\$27) Bright violet. Powerfully scented bouquet displays cherry and dark berries, with notes of smoke and minerals adding complexity. A broad-shouldered, somewhat chunky wine that seems a bit ungainly right now. The deep, dark fruit flavors expand on the finish, which echoes the smoky note. I'm not sure I'd have guessed this to be Beaujolais. **88(+?)?**

**2007 Moulin-A-Vent Les Trois Roches** (\$28) Bright red. Black raspberry and cherry aromas are complicated by anise, black tea and wilted rose. Chewy but not heavy, offering bitter cherry and berry skin flavors and a light dusting of tannins. Becomes sweeter on the finish, which leaves smoky mineral and floral notes behind. This is beginning to drink well now.

(Weygandt-Metzler, Unionville, PA) **88**