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FRÉDÉRIC COSSARD



Saint-Romain, Bourgogne

Frédéric Cossard is a larger than life character. A man with an infectious joie de vivre and a love of wine that runs deep. Fred wasn't born into a family of vignerons and instead had to start from scratch, no mean feat in Burgundy.

He started the Domaine de Chassorney in 1996, which started with a few hectares of vines rented in Saint-Romain and Auxey-Duresses and grew organically over several decades. Fred has recently passed the domain onto his right hand man to focus on his négociant project, sourcing grapes from some of the greatest vineyards in Burgundy. These wines are bottled eponymously, as 'Frédéric Cossard'.

Fred has been a champion of organic farming from the outset, making him something of a pioneer in a region where this has only recently become commonplace. He establishes long term relationships with growers, who are given a guide for looking after the vines to ensure that work is carried out to his lofty standards. In doing so he ensures that only the most pristine fruit makes it to the family's cellars tucked away in the hills of Saint-Romain. Such scrutiny is necessary to make great wine with no additions and in recent years Fred has continued to break convention by eschewing the use of oak barrels for elévage in favour of concrete eggs, earthenware jars and Georgian quevris in a quest to further refine his wines. The result is Burgundy of rare liveliness, purity and detail.

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GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN LES GENEVRIÈRES 2018

Pinot Noir from a parcel of forty year old vines from a lieu-dit in Gevrey. After fermenting as whole bunches, this was pressed off to Georgian qvevris for élevage. This is deep and elegant, with the time spent in these vessels adding texture and nuance to its layers of brambly fruit and exotic spice.