

*Wicked Cellars Tasting Notes:
Saturday, October 19th, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Our Art Walk Tasting
Of Southern Rhone Wines
With Chad Slansky from C & G Wines
\$10 Tasting Fee!*

This Saturday, during our October Art Walk event, our friend and wine veteran Chad Slansky of C&G Wines will share the best Southern Rhone wines found within C&G's fabled treasure chest of wines! Stop in for both the art on the walls and the art in the glass this Saturday between 4 and 7 p.m!

Clos du Papes NV Le Petite d'Avril Blanc \$22.99

This classic white Cotes du Rhone blend comes from the winery that produced Wine Spectator Wine of the Year in 2007, the 2005 Clos des Papes Châteauneuf-du-Pape! Sadly, we recently lost Paul Avril, but his son, Vincent, now holds the reins and this excellent white wine is a super way to kick off a tasting of fabulous Southern Rhone wines.

La Cabotte 2011 Cotes du Rhone Rouge \$14.99

This classic Cotes du Rhone blend shows off plenty of spice and earth notes coated with sweet fruit. Blackberries, raspberries and even some pepper notes are in abundance, while in the mouth it is rich and unctuous. Bright fruit and acidity balance out this dark red wine.

Bottled unfiltered to preserve all that nature offered, and fully in transition to biodynamic farming, the results are clear. More tension and grit, combined with deeper fruit take this wine to a new level.

Cuvée du Vatican 2010 Cotes du Rhone Villages \$18.99

Cuvée du Vatican's Cotes du Rhone Villages wines have long been considered as the "younger brother" to their famous Châteauneuf du Pape.

"Solid, with a nice gutsy feel to the dark currant and fig fruit, liberally laced with roasted espresso notes. Hefty, but still racy enough for balance. Drink now through 2013."

Score: 89 points —James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator* 2012.

Bertrand Stelhelin 2010 Sablet Rouge \$23.99

The Stelhelin family comes from a lineage of five generations of winemakers. Their wines classified Cotes du Rhone Sablet are grown on gently sloping plots in sandy soil close to the grounds of Gigondas in the Rhone Valley.

Ripe and gutsy, with lots of steeped plum, roasted fig and warm linzer torte flavors laced with dark cocoa, espresso bean and licorice root notes. The dark, grippy finish is rock-solid. Drink now through 2018. 200 cases made.

Score: 91 points —James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*, October 2012.

Domaine Charbonniere 2011 Vacqueyras \$32.99

This blend of 40% Syrah and 60% Grenache from the Appellation Vacqueyras Controlée presents a lovely soft and warming nose rich with fruit and spice. Deep complex spice and herb flavors rule the palate in a Southern Rhone absolutely perfect for drinking now – though will last and last, making this a superb drink.

Clos des Brusquieres 2010 Châteauneuf-du-Pape \$46.99

This blend of 68% Grenache, 15% Mourvèdre, 13% Syrah and 4% Cinsault is bright purple and offers powerful, deeply pitched aromas of cherry compote, licorice and spicy underbrush. Sweet, fleshy and focused, it shows heft to its ripe cherry, smoky plum and cassis flavors and finishes dense, minerally and long, with very smooth tannins.

Robert Parker, 88+ points; Stephen Tanzer, 90 points