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Master of Wine

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Happy Year of the Rooster!

I closed 2016 with a memorable trip to Burgundy to taste the 2015 vintage, which is just coming into the market now. While prices may be high given the chronic shortage and climatic challenges that Burgundy had to face in recent years, the red wines are fantastic! See my top picks of 2015 Burgundy premier crus [here](#).

I am discovering the thrill of interacting with a large number of wine lovers throughout China via livestream. I have hosted three livestream masterclasses, covering topics as diverse as Bordeaux en primeur to discovering California wines, attracting over 21,000 wine lovers who tuned in to join and ask questions. To join the livestream or to follow my activities throughout Asia, please contact me via [WeChat](#) or [Weibo](#). For English speakers, you can follow me on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

2016 was a year of change, launching this website and embarking on a number of exciting new projects in China, Hong Kong and Korea. I am eager to look ahead and welcome the new year of the rooster!

Wishing you and your family and friends, good health and much happiness in the coming year!

My Views



How To Avoid Buying Fake Wine

Did you know that as much as 20% of the fine wine worldwide is fake? Or that counterfeit bottles bought and returned based on lack of authenticity are being resold as authentic by the same merchants over and over again? Maureen Downey, a specialist in wine fraud, talks to me about how serious she believes the problem is in Asia. [Read more...](#)

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Wine Guide For Chinese Spring Festival: What Wine To Buy For Different Kinds Of Wine Lovers

"What wine should I serve with the turkey? What wine should I bring to my boss' dinner party? What wine should I give to an adventurous friend discovering wine?" Read this article to discover what wines may best suit five different types of wine lovers [Read more here.](#)

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Fine Wine Producers Debate To Cork Or Not To Cork

Many top producers are switching from cork closures to DIAM as well as screwcap and other cork alternatives to eliminate the chances of corked (TCA-infected) wines. Domaine de Montille and Domaine Leflaive are among the Burgundy producers who are making this move. Read [here](#) to discover more about this ongoing debate.

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Ancient Winemakers Georgia And Lebanon Grow Exports Into China's Thirsty Market

Georgia boasts itself as the "cradle of wine civilization" and now over 5 million bottles of Georgian wine are being exported to China (figures from end of 2016) and with the signing of the new free trade agreement, this number sets to grow in the coming years. Read more [here.](#)

Smart Buys



Vertical Tasting Of Roumier's Rare Musigny



My Top 2015 Burgundy Premier Cru Vineyards

With only .1 hectare of Musigny, Roumier has one of the smallest parcels in this exalted grand cru vineyard. I was fortunate enough to taste a vertical going back to 1979. To read my tasting notes and summary of the tasting, click [here](#). Image copyright: www.sothebys.com

The 2015 is a wonderful vintage in Burgundy, especially for reds. In this vintage, one doesn't need to go to grand cru vineyards to find wines with depth, intensity and wonderful balance. These are my [top 15](#) premier cru red Burgundies from Cote de Nuits.

Events



Wine Authentication Training

Date: 7 - 9 February 2017

Place: Hyatt Grand Hotel Hong Kong



Bordeaux En Primeur 2016

Date: 2- 6 April 2017

Place: Bordeaux, France



Tasting for Singapore Airlines

Date: 5 - 10 March 2017

Place: Singapore



Judging in South Africa

Date: 27 April - 5 May 2017

Place: South Africa Image copyright: Harry Browne's

Overheard

...in Burgundy

"Everything that is artful should be invisible." Jeremy Seysses, Domaine Dujac

"Using whole bunch [in making red Burgundy] is like using makeup to your best advantage – not to hide anything, but to show off your best assets." Benjamin Leroux

*"The 2015 vintage is eating brunch out on the porch on a sunny summer afternoon."
Francois Millet, Domaine Comte George de Vogue*
