Meursault Vielles Vignes 2016

HISTORY

There are different and uncertain theories about the etymology of Meursault.

People say that Meursault derives from *muris* saltus, meaning a jump or rat wood. At the beginning, Rat meant the name of the forest which covered the place.

For many others, Meursault means : high walls or Great walls. It could also derive from the German word *Mauerwald* which means : "enclosed wall wood".

Or it could derive from *mar salix*, the male willow or the "saule marsault". So Meursault could originate from a willow plantation. In the past, one used the willow wood to make some stakes for the vines...

THE 2016 VINTAGE

The grapevines began their vegetative cycle early while the first buds cracked at the end of March. The warm temperatures for the season allowed for rapid growth of the branches. A cold period of 3 days was installed at the end of April, causing severe frost damage throughout Côte de Beaune and Côte de Nuits vineyards. Depending on the area the damage was zero to total.

A rainy and cool period followed the frost episode making difficult the work in the vineyards. The secondary buds were able to restart but many of them were sterile, leading to very low yields for some appellation**S**.

Summer time allowed ideal conditions for the vineyard. The delay caused by the frost was partially compensated. The first shots of secateurs were given at the end of September. The yields obtained are very low. However, the harvested crops are of very high qualit**y**.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- GRAPE VARIETY : 100 % Chardonnay
- PRUNING SYSTEM : single Guyot
- DENSITY OF PLANTING: 10 000 vinestocks/ha
- AGE OF VINE: 48 to 62 years old
- YIELD : 30 hl/ha
- VINEYARD MANAGEMENT : Lutte raisonnée
- HARVEST : manual
- HARVEST DATE: 26th September 2016
- VINIFICATION: No crushing. Juice extracted at low pressure with air-filled press. Static debourbage at low temperature (24 to 36 hours).
- BARREL AGING: 14 months. 100% in barrels (20% new oak). Racking before fining. Smooth filtration before bottling.
- BOTTLING: 21st November 2017
- DEGREE % VOL: 13.5%
- PRODUCTION : 9000 bottles

THE TERROIR

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION : The vineyard of Meursault is situated between Volnay, to the north, and Puligny -Montrachet, to the south. Meursault is the largest village of the Côte de Beaune.

ALTITUDE : 230 to 380 m

NATURE OF THE SOIL : clay-limestone

VINEYARD EXPOSURE: east. South/east

