

TERROIR-BY-THE-GLASS

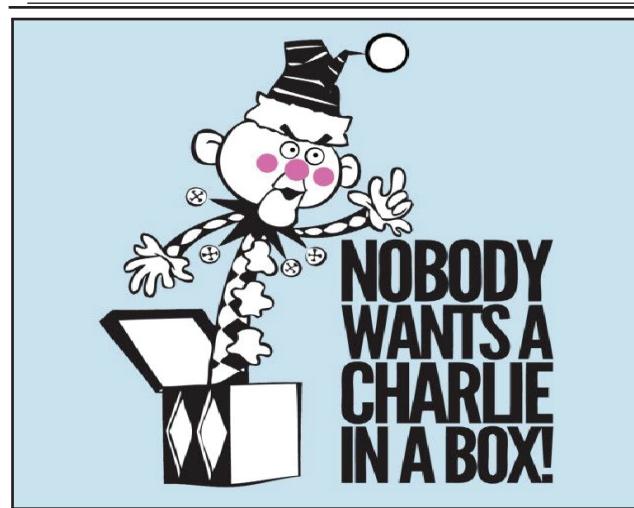


DECEMBER - 2025

THE IDEA OF TERROIR ENCOMPASSES MORE THAN JUST SOIL TYPE, CLIMATE, GEOGRAPHY, VEGETATION & VARIETAL CHOICE. IT INCORPORATES THE HAND OF MAN, LOCAL HISTORY, CULTURAL TRENDS, CULINARY TRADITIONS & SOCIAL ECONOMICS.

THE MENU OF MISFIT TOYS

	STEM	GLASS	BOTTLE
CHARDONNAY - DOMAINE ZAFEIRAKIS - "FOOTHILLS" - THESSALY, GREECE - 2020 DOMAINE ZAFEIRAKIS IS LOCATED IN LITTLE SUBREGION OF THESSALY CALLED TYRNAVOS, WHERE INDIGENOUS VARIETIES LIKE RODITIS, XINOMAVRO, NEGOSKA, AND LIMNIO ARE GROWN. YET, HERE WE FIND CHARDONNAY, WHICH FOUND ITS WAY TO NORTHERN GREECE VIA TRADE ROUTES ESTABLISHED BETWEEN EUROPE & THE EAST.		18	72
SAVAGNIN - ROOTDOWN WINES - "COLE RANCH" - MENDOCINO, CALIFORNIA - 2022 NOT ONLY IS SAVAGNIN RARELY FOUND IN CALIFORNIA, IT'S RARELY FOUND AT ALL - UNLESS YOU HAPPEN TO BE SEEKING OUT ARBOIS OR VIN JAUNE. SAVAGNIN IS AN ANCIENT GRAPE LOCAL TO JURA, FRANCE. IT MADE ITS WAY TO MENDOCINO BECAUSE THE GUYS AT ROOTDOWN ARE OBSESSED WITH JURA VARIETALS.		20	80
SAUVIGNON BLANC - LACKNER TINNACHER - "GAMLITZ" - SÜDSTEIERMARK, AUSTRIA - 2023 SAUVIGNON BLANC IS GROWN IN MANY PLACES - TOO MANY PLACES, YOU MIGHT SAY - AND SHOWS WELL IN ABOUT THREE OF THOSE. BUT I WOULD BET THAT YOU'D NEVER GUESS AUSTRIA TO BE ONE OF THOSE THREE. IT WAS INTRODUCED TO LOWER AUSTRIA IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY IN ORDER TO "MODERNIZE" VITICULTURE.		16	64
ALBARÍN - FREJA - CHEHALEM MOUNTAINS - WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON - 2023 ALBARINO HAS SHOWN UP IN A FEW ODDBALL PLACES AROUND THE WORLD. MEXICO, TEXAS, URUGUAY, CALIFORNIA, AND AUSTRALIA TO NAME A FEW. BUT THESE ARE HUGE OUTLIERS TO ITS ORIGIN IN RIAS BAIXAS. THIS ONE-ACRE VINEYARD IS OREGON'S ONLY PLANTING & EXISTS ONLY BECAUSE THE OWNER WANTS TO DRINK IT.		15	60
MARSANNE/ROUSSANNE - "GEISHA DE JADE" - VER SACRUM - MENDOZA, ARGENTINA - 2023 VER SACRUM IS NOTORIOUS FOR SUPPORTING MISFIT GRAPES. THEY HAVE PLANTED SINGLE-VINEYARD EXAMPLES OF MENCIA, NEBBIOLO, VIOGNIER, GRENACHE, MOURVEDRE, SYRAH, ETC. THEY LOVE RHONE VARIETIES, WHICH IS HOW THIS CAME TO BE. MARSANNE & ROUSSANNE ARE THE GRAPES USUALLY USED IN HERMITAGE BLANC.		19	76
PINOT NOIR - ALTA PAVINA - "CITIUS" - LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA Y LEON, SPAIN - 2019 OF ALL PLACES THAT PINOT NOIR SHOULD BE GROWN, I WOULD NEVER PEG CASTILLA Y LEON AS BEING AN APPROPRIATE OR EVEN VIABLE ONE. IT IS JUST TOO HOT TO SUPPORT SUCH A DELICATE AND TEMPERMENTAL GRAPE. HOWEVER, THE HIGH ALTITUDE FOUND AT THIS ESTATE ALLOWS FOR PROPER VERAISON & RIPENING.		17	68
CABERNET FRANC - SAGMEISTER - "BRETON" - BENAT, SERBIA - 2021 WINEMAKER ERNO SAGMEISTER IS ON THE FOREFRONT OF THE SERBIAN WINE INDUSTRY, PUSHING FOR THE SUPPORT OF NATIVE VARIETALS LIKE FURMINT, KADARKA, AND HARSLEVELU. HOWEVER, HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES HIS LOVE FOR CLASSIC FRENCH GRAPES. HE CURRENTLY GROWS BOTH PINOT NOIR & CAB FRANC ON THE ESTATE.		16	64
BLAUFRAKISCH - LEFT FOOT CHARLEY - OLD MISSION PENINSULA, MICHIGAN - 2023 DID ANYONE EVEN KNOW THAT MICHIGAN GREW GRAPES, LET ALONE MADE SERIOUS, WORLD-CLASS WINE? IT'S A PRETTY WELL-GUARDED SECRET THAT THE LEELANAU AND OLD MISSION PENINSULAS ARE PRODUCING DELICIOUS WINES. BLAUFRAKISCH ISN'T A USUAL VARIETY HERE, BUT AFTER LEFT FOOT PLANTED THE ACRE IN 2000, ITS POPULARITY HAS BEEN SLOWLY GROWING.		18	72
SYRAH - ALAIN GRAILLOT - "SYROCCO" - ZENATA - CASABLANCA, MOROCCO - 2023 ALAIN GRAILLOT IS A VERY FAMOUS WINEMAKER FROM NORTHERN RHONE, WHERE HE FOCUSES ON SYRAH PRODUCTION IN CROZES-HERMITAGE. HE DISCOVERED THESE PERFECT VINEYARDS WHILE BICYCLING NEAR CASABLANCA DURING A VISIT IN THE EARLY OUGHTS, AND DECIDED TO PLANT HIS BELOVED SYRAH THERE.		24	96
SANGIOVESE - FOXEN VINEYARDS - "VOLPINO" - SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA - 2019 SANTA BARBARA, MADE FAMOUS BY THE MOVIE SIDeways, IS HOME TO A HANDFUL OF FRENCH VARIETIES: PINOT NOIR, CHARDONNAY, SYRAH, GRENACHE, AND TO LESSER DEGREES MERLOT, MOURVEDRE, CAB FRANC & CABERNET SAUVIGNON. BUT, IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT TYPICALLY HOST THE TUSCAN GRAPE, SANGIOVESE.		25	100
TEMPRANILLO - CASALE DEL GIGLIO - "TEMPRANIJO" - LAZIO, ITALY - 2019 THIS IS THE WINE THAT SPARKED THE MENU. OF ALL THE WINES HERE, THIS IS BY FAR THE MOST MISFIT AND MISPLACED. TEMPRANILLO IS THE PRIMARY GRAPE OF RIOJA. IT IS GROWN THROUGHOUT SPAIN AND CAN BE FOUND SPARINGLY IN THE NEW WORLD. BUT NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS WOULD YOU EXPECT TO FIND IT ITALY!		22	88



A TASTE OF TERROIR 100

EXPERIENCE MAXIMUM TERROIR EXPOSURE
WITH A FLIGHT OF ALL THE MISFIT WINES

SO, ORIGINALLY THIS MENU WAS GOING TO BE CALLED "WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?" AS IT FOCUSES ON VARIETALS GROWN WAY OUTSIDE OF THEIR NORMAL PRODUCTION AREAS. BUT WE COULDN'T PASS ON A CLASSIC CHRISTMAS MOVIE REFERENCE, AND WE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE NOTION THAT SOMEONE IN-FACT DOES WANT A CHARLIE IN THE BOX. ANYWAY, THIS MONTH WE ARE EXPLORING THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT GRAPES CAN AND SHOULD BE GROWN IN PLACES FROM WHICH THEY DO NOT ORIGINATE, AND WE ARE DISCOVERING HOW THE GRAPES FROM THE WINES ABOVE CAME TO EXIST IN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCATIONS. THERE ARE REASONS YOU FIND CERTAIN VARIETIES IN SPECIFIC PLACES. GENETIC ORIGIN, HISTORY, CULTURE, SHIFTING GEOGRAPHIC LINES DUE TO POLITICS OR WARFARE, PHYSICAL TOPOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS, AND SOCIO-ECONOMICS ARE JUST A FEW. WELL, THESE MISFIT WINES ARE WAY OUTSIDE THEIR LOCATIONAL PURVIEW. LET'S FIND OUT WHY!