Domaine Henry Natter Sancerre





Sancerre "Cuvée François de la Grange" 2016

With his retirement in 2016 Henry Natter passed on the primary responsibility to running this family domaine to his son Vincent and daughter Mathilde. The village of Montigny is on the western end of the appellation of Sancerre, with the hillside vineyards here on pure terres blanches. The family's Cuvée François de la Grange de Montigny is a special, old vine bottling, that is made from vines in excess of fifty years of age, with the wine fermented and aged for a year in old foudres prior to bottling. The 2016 version is excellent, offering up a complex bouquet of lemon, a touch of pineapple, damp grass, a beautiful base of limestone minerality and a topnote of lime peel. On the palate the wine is bright, full-bodied, focused and zesty, with a lovely core, fine mineral drive and a long, complex and beautifully balanced finish. This is drinking beautifully at four years of age, but still has plenty of life ahead of it as well. Fine juice. 2020-2030+.

92 pts, John Gilman, A View from the Cellar, May-June 2020

Sancerre "Cuvée François de la Grange" 2015

[This] is the family's old vine bottling, made from a parcel of fifty-plus year-old vines in their vineyards in Montigny. However, the Natter family also makes a selection of the best foudres of the old vines to be bottled up as this special cuvée, so not all of the old vines make it into the Cuvée François de la Grange de Montigny each year. Once the cellar selection has been settled on, this wine stays in its foudres for nine to twelve months prior to bottling and is designed for long cellaring. The 2015 version is excellent, offering up a deep and complex nose of lemon, tart orange, lovely botanicals, a great base Chavignol-like of limestone minerality, citrus peel and a bit of upper register smokiness. On the palate the wine is crisp, fullbodied and quite ripe in this vintage, with a rock solid core of fruit, fine focus and grip, good acids and impressive length on the complex finish. This is still fairly primary in personality and clearly is going to age very well indeed. Impressive juice. 2020-2035+.

92+ pts, John Gilman, A View from the Cellar #77, October 2018

