

DOMAINE MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Millésime 2014

Allen Meadows

Chorey-les-Beaune 2014 : 86-89/100

A fresh and agreeably fruity nose features notes of earth and red currant that precede the attractively vibrant and well-detailed middle weight flavors that possess reasonably good depth and length. This delicious effort should drink well young if desired.

Ladoix « Le Clos Royer » 2014 : 88-90/100

A much more deeply pitched nose features notes of plum, pungent earth and soft violet scents. There is a velvety, even suave texture to the caressing and voluminous medium weight flavors that possess a mouth coating finish. This too should drink well after only a year or two of bottle age if that's your preference.



Ladoix 1er Cru « Les Joyeuses » 2014 : 89-91/100

Here the nose is quite firmly reduced and unreadable. There is better detail if a bit less volume and richness to the refined medium-bodied flavors that culminate in a notably firmer and more serious yet relatively elegant finish. In contrast to the first two wines this is going to require a few years of cellar time first.

Ladoix 1er Cru « La Corvée » 2014 : 89-91/100

A hint of reduction shaves the top notes from the floral and red berry fruit aromas. There is more size, weight and richness if not the same refinement to the delicious middle weight flavors that possess slightly firmer tannins on the balanced and slightly rustic finish. This offers both good balance and complexity and will also require a few years of bottle age first to round on the mildly chewy structure.

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Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « Les Valozières » 2014 : 89-92/100

An ultra-fresh, intensely floral and spicy nose features notes of cool red berry fruit and earth scents. There is excellent punch to the muscular and well-delineated medium weight plus flavors that are permeated by an underlying minerality that especially comes out on the restrained, austere and linear finish. This robust and powerful effort will definitely need at least 5 years before being approachable.

Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2014 : 90-93/100

While firm reduction masks the underlying fruit there is good freshness and verve to the pure and restrained medium-bodied flavors that exude a fine bead of minerality on the wonderfully complex and beautifully balanced finish. This impressively long effort will also need at least 5 years before it will be approachable as it's presently very firm.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2014 : 91-93/100

An intensely floral nose enjoys a strikingly broad range of aromas that include spice, earth, herbal tea on the array of both red and dark cherry scents. The mid-palate of the impressively concentrated medium weight flavors is quite supple for a Corton yet the finish tightens up substantially on the lingering, dusty and saline-inflected finish. This firm and beautifully complex effort will need at least 7 to 8 years of bottle age before being approachable.



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Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2014 : 92-94/100

Here the notably less expressive nose is compositionally similar to the Maréchaudes but is even more complex as there is more floral influence. The extremely rich flavors possess even more size, weight and mid-palate concentration that translates into more power as well on the hugely long, textured and strikingly long finish. This is an extremely impressive effort that will also need plenty of cellar time before it's ready for prime time.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Renardes » 2014 : 92-95/100

(from a .75 ha parcel). This too is highly restrained with its grudging nose of red currant, spice, earth and intensely sauvage permeated aromas. There is excellent power and plenty of punch to the broad-shouldered and superbly well-concentrated full bodied flavors that culminate in a tight, serious, hugely long and well-balanced finis. This is distinctly old school in style and it would be pointless to open a bottle before it has at least 10 years of age.

Bourgogne Chardonnay 2014 : 87/100

A pungent array of resin, straw, apple and citrus introduces vibrant, intense and attractively textured and detailed flavors that terminate in a dry, clean and citrusy finale that offers better than average depth and length compared to what is typical for the genre. This would make a fine choice for an ageworthy house white.



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Ladoix Blanc 2014 : 89/100

(from La Vigne Adaim and Champ Pussuet). A super-fresh nose combines notes of lemon and floral nuances with those of various white orchard fruit scents. There is good richness to the relatively full-bodied and attractively textured flavors that deliver fine length on the very refreshing finale. This well-made effort is really quite good and worth a look for both value and quality.

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2014 : 90/100

A mild hint of exoticism adds breadth to the pretty array of white peach and citrus peel-scented nose. There is once again fine richness to the seductively textured and pliant medium-bodied flavors that possess good mid-palate fat, all wrapped in a delicious, complex, balanced and lingering finish. This offers excellent quality for a villages level Ladoix and is worthy of your interest.



Ladoix 1er Cru « *Les Gréchons* » 2014 : 91/100

There is an appealing smoky note to the cool and admirably pure nose that is composed by green apple, citrus rind and soft floral scents. The mouth feel of the middle weight and overtly stony flavors is finer than that of the Clos Royer while delivering slightly better overall depth and length as well. This too is worthy of consideration.

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Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2014 : 92-94/100

(from Le Charlemagne). In contrast to the prior wines, all of which are in bottle, this is quite reduced though the aeration it will receive soon in preparation for the bottling should cause it to dissipate. Otherwise there is terrific intensity to the muscular yet sleek big-bodied flavors that brim with both minerality and dry extract while exhibiting superb length on the explosively long finish where a hint of bitter lemon appears. This offers excellent development potential and should amply reward up to a decade of cellar time.



The Wine Advocate - Robert Parker

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2014 : 85-87/100

The 2014 Ladoix Le Clos Royer had a slight reduction on the nose when I tasted it at the domaine, but otherwise there is fine red berry fruit lurking underneath. The palate is a little rustic on the entry with saline red berry fruit and a muscular finish. Not bad, but I feel this will be surpassed by some of Michel's other wines this year.



Ladoix 1er Cru « *Les Joyeuses* » 2014 : 89-91/100

The 2014 Ladoix 1er Cru Les Joyeuses has a lovely nose that is very well defined : real pinoté here and fine delineation. The palate is very detailed, very precise with a fine line of acidity, elegant and poised finish full of pinoté. This is highly recommended and an excellent Ladoix from one of the villages best winemakers.

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Ladoix 1er Cru « La Corvée » 2014 : 88-90/100

The 2014 Ladoix 1er Cru La Corvée matured in around 50% new oak, has a well defined, slightly gamey bouquet with plenty of crisp ripe red berry fruit underneath. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, good depth if not quite possessing the disarming charm of the Joyeuse. Still, this is a well crafted Ladoix that should age nicely.

Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « Les Valozières » 2014 : 86-88/100

The 2014 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Les Valozières has a crisp, undergrowth-tinged raspberry and wild strawberry-scented bouquet with hints of dried rose petal. The palate is medium-bodied, smooth in the mouth with good density; the oak is a little dominant towards the finish and it will require a year or two after bottling to be fully integrated.

Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2014 : 89-91/100

The 2014 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru La Toppe au Vert has a well defined red berry mixed with cold stone-scented bouquet that is nicely focused, brims over with vim and vigor. The palate is well balanced with good structure and a slightly chalky texture, but showing more harmony than the Valozières on the finish. There's class within this Aloxe-Corton and it comes highly recommended.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2014 : 91-93/100

The 2014 Corton Les Maréchaudes Grand Cru has a clean and precise bouquet, fine mineral tones, with the new oak (80%) very neatly folded into the fruit and allowing the terroir to show through. The palate is crisp and precise, nicely focused with impressive harmony, demonstrating tangible energy on the finish. This is a well crafted, delightful Corton Les Maréchaudes from Monsieur Mallard.



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Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2014 : 90-92/100

The 2014 Corton Le Rognet Grand Cru has a much more backward nose than the 2014 Corton Les Maréchaudes – taciturn and a little broody at present. The palate is showing more of the oak, perhaps a little more occluded by the winemaking, but I think it will melt away after bottling and there is decent substance here, so give it 4-5 years in the cellar.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Renardes » 2014 : 91-93/100

The 2014 Corton Les Renardes Grand Cru has a complex, sous-bois-tinged, red berry bouquet that is well defined and focused, unfolding nicely in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with grippy tannin, a creamy veneer coming from the new oak, but there is sufficient fruit to absorb that and turn into what should be a long-lived Corton. Perhaps the most seductive number from Michel Mallard this year.

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2014 : 92-94/100

The 2014 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru has certainly one of the better set of aromatics that I tasted from this famous vineyard, with greater definition and minerality than many of its peers. The palate is very harmonious with finely integrated oak, a keen line of acidity, very natural and effortless on the finish. What a wonderful Corton-Charlemagne – probably the one I would go out and buy myself.



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Tim Atkin MW Special Report

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2014 : 90/100

Ladoix 1er Cru « *Les Joyeuses* » 2014 : 91/100

Ladoix 1er Cru « *La Corvée* » 2014 : 93/100

Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « *Les Valozières* » 2014 : 92/100

Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru « *La Toppe au Vert* » 2014 : 93/100



Corton Grand Cru « *Le Rognet* » 2014 : 95/100

The Mallards seem to have the knack of expressing the best things about Corton without showing any of its scrawniness. This is another deliciously stylish wine, with fine-grained tannins, bright acidity, some clove spice and a core of red berry sweetness.

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2014 : 95/100

Drawn from three, east-facing parcels, this is a very fine Corton that will also (on past evidence) age extremely well. Floral spicy and showing some sap from 30% whole bunches, this is a deliciously drinkable Corton with nuanced red cherry and raspberry fruit.

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2014 : 94/100

Michel Mallard is the youthful winemaker at Domaine d'Eugénie, but also makes his own wines in the Côte de Beaune. This Corton-Charlemagne is from a south-facing, 0,1 hectare parcel and shows flavours of honey, pear and vanilla with plenty of texture and a foundation of minerality.