

## ***Notes From The Cellar (NFTC); Winepairings e-letter February ,2009***

### **Direct Import part II: Germany 2007 Rieslings -do not miss!**

Last week I offered a pre- arrival of the finest Austrian wines of Uber importer Terry Theise You can check out the details at: [http://winepairings.biz/newsletters/NFTC\\_01-29-2009.pdf](http://winepairings.biz/newsletters/NFTC_01-29-2009.pdf)

Today we look at what I considered to be the best value from the German side of the portfolio in the superb 2007 vintage.

Here's a quick recap of how this deal works: As a pre-arrival order, we get some excellent pricing. We pass along the special low prices, but you have to commit to a minimum of 3 bottles per wine, (as we have to order these in full case quantity). Today's offerings are expected in late May. Please order over the next 2 days and we will notify you as soon as they arrive. Payment is only required when the wine is here. We can not guarantee that you will get everything you order, but to date our procurement rate has been very consistent.

As I mentioned last week, the 2007 vintage in Germany has been superb. My overall impression from tasting many samples was that the best value exists in the wines with Spatlese designation. It was hard to make the final cut, as there were so many excellent choices at very reasonable prices. Unfortunately there were not as many impressive Auslese wines available. While the latter tend to be more extracted, generally sweeter and age worthy, they also often represent the highest levels of complexity and quality in German wines. On the other hand Auslese tend to be more pricey, which may have been a factor in the importer's decision to cut back on the amount of Auslese wines in this year's offer. I will keep looking for more Auslese wines to offer from this great vintage in the future, but today's offer concentrates mainly on the more food friendly and affordable Kabinett and Auslese wines.

### **Today's Wine Deal \$\$\$**

#### **The KABINETTS:**

#### **SELBACH -OSTER Zeltinger Schlossberg 2007 \$23-**

Year in and year out the wines of S-O are some of the finest, most impressive wines of the region. I always look forward to trying them, and am never disappointed. The hard part is to pick which one to recommend. This wine will appeal to all fans of well made Kabinett, especially if you prefer them more towards the dry end of the spectrum. This will be one of the most friendly food wines of the vintage. Beautiful structured and with enough extraction to develop some interesting notes over the next few years.

#### **STRUB Niersteiner Brucken 2007 \$20-**

An outstanding bargain from the Rheinhessen region. 11 generations of family winemakers going back to 1710. Strub wines seem to always show better after some bottle time yet this particular one was already lip smacking. Here is what the Wine Spectator had to say. :  
*A plump style, sporting nectarine, peach, lime and mineral flavors. There's good cut, and this ends with a tangy, mouthwatering finish. Needs a few months to integrate. Best from 2009 through 2019. -BS Nov. 2008 Score 90 points.*

#### **The SPATLESES:**

#### **SELBACH -OSTER Zeltinger Schlossberg 2007 \$28-**

Yes my favorite Spat. came from the same site as the kabinett. This is A great effort all around. Full of Apple & yellow fruit yet it maintains a racy edge with a great mineral tinged finish. Good now and had the stuffing to age another 10 years with ease. A great compliment to food

yet this will also make for a great sipping wine. What I call A great all rounder. You really can't go wrong here.

**J.J. CHRISTOFFEL Erdener Treppchen 2007                    \$29-**

Another perennial favorite from the Mosel. What made this special in addition to the gorgeous fruit was the full mouth of Herbs and aromas of flowers in sum: Spring in a glass.

Wine Spectator Oct 2008: *Enticing aromas of freesia and elderflower lead to peach and nectarine in this rich, juicy white. Backed by lively acidity, it unfolds to a long, lingering aftertaste of fresh orchard fruit and slate. Drink now through 2030. 150 cases made. –BS Score 92 points*

**MEULENHOF Erdner Treppchen \*                    \$26**

The Star designates an upgrade from the regular bottling. This is a very easy wine to like, as it represents excellent balance, full clean flavors and a lingering smooth finish one of the best values in terms of quality to price ratio in the tasting.

Wine Spectator Oct 2008: A nice combination of rich, creamy texture and vibrant structure provides a setting for the apricot, banana, warm spice and mineral notes. It's concentrated and firms up on the finish. Drink now through 2030. –BS Score 91 points

**COLLECTORS CORNER**

**SELBACH -OSTER Zeltinger Sonnenuhr AUSLESE Rotlay                    \$55-**

As I mentioned before, not that many Auslese designated wines in this tasting and this one really stood out for me heads and shoulders above the rest with it's full range of flavors, so I am giving this the CC designation here. Yes Selbach-Oster was my favorite overall producer and as such well represented here. You need to act fast -In the upcoming Feb 28 2009 issue of WS this wine got a whopping 94 points. I am sure that this wine was priced before the ratings as in previous vintages when it received favorable scores, it tended to sell out fast at much higher prices.

Wine Spectator: *Light in weight, but not in flavor, this 2007 Riesling offers Key lime pie, Golden Delicious apple and floral notes on a see-through frame. Offers beautiful balance and persistence, lingering gracefully on the finish. Drink now through 2032. –BS Score 94 points*

**Thanks again for all your support and referrals, tell your friends,  
Cheers!**

Paul David, Chief Fermented Grape Taster.

**WINEPAIRINGS**

- Your wine concierge service. Contact us for all your Wine needs.

For more info: [www.winepairings.biz](http://www.winepairings.biz)

Reach us at: tel 303-331-8008

*"Notes From The Cellar " or NFTC in the subject line is our free e-letter sent periodically when items of interest may be available. If you got this e-mail chances are that you or someone you know expressed an interest in being on our list. If you are not interested in receiving additional such e-mails please let us know & we will gladly remove you. Our e-mail list is strictly in house. we do not share it, or sell it what-so-ever. We thank you for your referrals.*

All orders are sold and shipped by a licensed Colorado wine retailer. Title passes to you, the buyer, in Colorado.

The buyer is solely responsible for the shipment of wine. We make no representations concerning your legal right to ship or receive wine into any state outside Colorado or any country outside the United States. By placing any wine order with us, you authorize Winepairings to act on your behalf to engage a common carrier to deliver your order to your selected destination.

Please note that **you must be at least 21 years old** to order or receive alcohol from this newsletter. All orders require the signature of a person at least 21 years of age.