

This Week in Reviews



VINEYARD BRANDS

Full color PDFs available at www.vineyardbrands.com

GIR246	Vincent Girardin Chevalier-Montrachet Grand Cru 2007	Wine Spectator	92 points
GIR247	Vincent Girardin Bâtard-Montrachet and Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru 2007	Wine Spectator	92 & 93 points
GIR248	Vincent Girardin Various 2008 & 2007	International Wine Cellar	
VM003	Vincent & Sophie Morey St Aubin les Charmois Premier Cru 2007	Wine Spectator	90 points
BON021	Bonnaire Brut Grand Cru Blanc de Blancs 2004	International Wine Cellar	92 points
KES023	August Kessler Various 2006 & 2007	Wine Advocate	
PGN002	Peregrine Pinot Gris Central Otago 2008	WineReviewOnline	90 points
MOH001	Mohua Pinot Noir Central Otago 2008	WineReviewOnline	89 points
MOH002	Mohua Riesling Central Otago 2007	WineReviewOnline	88 points



Issue #185 Closing Date: 10-31-09

August Kessler	2007	Riesling Estate	White	87
August Kessler	2007	Riesling R	White	87
August Kessler	2007	Rudesheimer Berg Roseneck Riesling Auslese Gold Capsule	White	92
August Kessler	2006	Spätburgunder Trocken	Red	89
August Kessler	2006	Spätburgunder Trocken Cuvée Max	Red	91
August Kessler	2007	Spätburgunder Rosé	Rosé	98
August Kessler	2007	Silvaner & Riesling	White	89
August Kessler	2007	Rudesheimer Bischofsberg Riesling Spätlese Gold Capsule	White	89

"The Kessler generic estate 2007 Riesling – originating in Rudesheimer vineyards, and distinguished from the R bottling by its very different label and its indication of Erzeugerabfüllung, i.e. estate-bottling – offers brown spice-tinged peach and pear shot through with fresh lemon, leading to a sappy, satisfying, mouth-watering if relatively simple and overtly sweet finish.

Kessler's basic, high-volume 2007 Riesling R – most of which comes from the same towns as his Silvaner-Riesling blend, Lorch and Lorchhausen – offers juicy pear, lime, and apple, and finishes with lip-tingling brightness and its considerable sweetness not diminishing a clear perception of its hints of stone and flowers.

Kessler's 2007 Rudesheimer Berg Roseneck Riesling Auslese Gold Capsule is immediately striking for its sense of levity and delicacy allied to concentrated expressions of peach preserves; over-ripe pear and honeydew melon; marzipan; and gardenia. Like chiffon that has been beaten into a fine froth, this descends on the palate as a cloud, then lingers long with hints of creaminess, as well as floral and fruit essences. It would be difficult to offer more of a contrast than between this memorable wine and its counterpart from the Lorch Schlosberg. I expect that here, too, we have a wine with quarter-century potential. The basic 2006 Spätburgunder Trocken delivers a lovely nose of cherry, rose hip, and subtle fresh meat suggestions. Brightly fresh-fruited and tender in texture, it finishes with invigoration and lip-smacking savor, with suggestions of peat and roasted meats offering low-toned, understated contrast to its faintly tart fruit. As Kessler remarks, "this has neither the richness and density of 2005 nor quite the minerality of 2004," but it has plenty of charm, and will prove highly versatile for at least the next 2-3 years.

A mingling of red and blue fruits with resinous and faintly caramelized suggestions of maple syrup rises from the glass of 2006 Spätburgunder Trocken Cuvée Max, a wine that incorporates all of Kessler's best fruit of the vintage, both from the Assmannshausen Hollenberg and the Rudesheimer Berg Schlosberg, neither of those sites having been subjected this year to their usual dedicated bottlings. The result is a wine no Pinophile should overlook, as its price is not unreasonable in the context of the world's most capricious, demanding, and expensive grape variety; not to mention that of Kessler's sheer steep slopes, pitifully low yields, and delicious results. A faintly oily texture and pure, bright fruit on the palate lead to a finish in which mineral and carnal allusions as well as hints of brown spice and maple syrup cling with refinement yet adhesive persistence.



WEINGUT
AUGUST KESSELER



AUGUST KESSELER
RIESLING

Imported by Vineyard Brands | Vineyard Brands Selections | www.vineyardbrands.com | KES023



MOHUA

PINOT NOIR
CENTRAL OTAGO 2008

"Youthful so fresh but also not yet evolved, this is a delicious Pinot Noir, praiseworthy especially for its excellent balance and light, lithe character. In my experience, good Pinots from Central Otago in New Zealand's South Island tend to feel silky and almost delicate on the palate. This one definitely fits that bill. Its flavors do seem a little simple at present, but I'd be willing to bet that the wine will become more complex and compelling with a year or two of bottle age. If true, it definitely will merit a 90+ score."

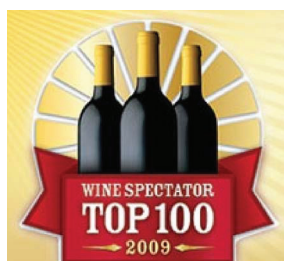
89

points

WineReviewOnline
Paul Lukacs | November 10, 2009



Imported by Vineyard Brands | Vineyard Brands Selections | www.vineyardbrands.com | MOH001



Congratulations!

Wine Spectator TOP 100 Wines of 2009:
Tablas Creek Vineyard Esprit de Beaucastel 2006
Perrin & Fils Vinsobres les Cornuds 2007