

THE *tasting* panel

MAGAZINE

JULY/AUGUST 2019 • \$6.95

Ole Smoky **TAKING TENNESSEE BY STORM**

PHOTO: JASON MYERS



Robert Hall, CEO of Ole Smoky Moonshine, with Joe Baker, founder of Ole Smoky Moonshine and Yeehaw Brewing Company, and Will Perkins, General Manager of the new Ole Smoky Distillery in Nashville, TN.

90 Four Virtues 2017 Pinot Noir, Monterey County (\$25) Savory vanilla nose; silky and juicy with notes of vanilla and oak on the palate. A tangy and long expression from Rutherford Wine Company.

91 Georges Duboeuf 2016 Gamay, Domaine de la Vigne Romaine, Moulin-à-Vent AOC, France (\$25) Smooth and juicy with rich cherry and a long finish. A velvety and richly layered wine from the master of Beaujolais.

QUINTESSENTIAL WINES

90 Georges Duboeuf 2016 Domaine de Lafayette Brouilly, Beaujolais, France (\$20) Lush and flavorful with ripe cherry notes; creamy and spicy with a sumptuous texture and good balance. 100% Gamay.

QUINTESSENTIAL WINES



91 B Side 2017 Pinot Noir, North Coast (\$20) Fresh, juicy, and bright with lively acidity, notes of tart cherry, and a touch of vanilla and oak. Silky texture with a racy style and fine balance; from Don Sebastiani.

88 Matchbook 2015 Estate Bottled Syrah, Dunnigan Hills, California (\$16) Dark ruby color; smooth, juicy, and tangy; a rich, concentrated, and intense offering from JL Giguere. This noble variety is having a resurgence.

91 Messina Hof Winery 2017 Dry Cuvée Sauvignon Blanc, Texas (\$19) Smooth and ripe with bright, tangy notes of apple and citrus; rich and balanced. A charming wine from a great Texas producer.

88 Messina Hof Winery 2017 Dry Riesling, Texas (\$14) Dry, bright, and flavorful with clean notes of peach and lime. Riesling from Texas? Who knew ...

92 Montes 2016 Alpha Chardonnay, Aconcagua Coast, Chile (\$22) Refined and crisp with a silky texture; balanced, bright, and refreshing with lovely notes of pear and toast.

KOBRAND WINE AND SPIRITS

92 Mt. Beautiful 2018 Sauvignon Blanc, North Canterbury, New Zealand (\$17) Smooth and rich with minerals and tangy fruit; fresh and long with layered complexity and a remarkable Old World quality. ☺

MT. BEAUTIFUL USA

88 Olema 2018 Rosé, Côtes de Provence, France (\$16) A pale pink blend of five Rhône varieties (50% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre, 15% Carignan, 10% Cinsault, and 5% Syrah). Dry, smooth, and juicy with nice, soft edges—a refreshing and balanced expression from Amici Cellars.

88 Parducci 2017 Small Lot Cabernet Sauvignon, Mendocino County (\$15) Smooth, bright, and tangy with notes of plum and earth; fresh and long.

MENDOCINO WINE CO.



91 Moniker 2017 La Ribera Vineyard Chardonnay, Mendocino County (\$22) Smooth with a clean, lush style; fresh with juicy acidity and ripe fruit. Elegant with hints of vanilla, oak, toast, and soft minerals—all at a nice price.

91 Paul Dolan Vineyards 2018 Organically Grown Sauvignon Blanc, Mendocino County (\$18) Silky with mellow notes of juicy apple; lush, tangy, and balanced; elegant and charming. ☺



92 Paul Dolan Vineyards 2016 Organically Grown Cabernet Sauvignon, Mendocino County (\$25) Deep ruby color with a spice-tinged nose; satiny texture with a clean, bright, and juicy style. Showing notes of fresh plum with a touch of vanilla and new oak, it's mellow and totally in balance, with a long, seductive finish.

