## DOMAINE CHANDON DE BRIAILLES CORTON 'LES BRESSANDES' GRAND CRU

100% Pinot Noir. Beautiful ruby color. Lots of cherry fruit, red florals, crushed spice and fine, bright tannins. A lovely sensation of opulence and fullness. Elegant and powerful. Lovely balance and great length. Magnificent aging potential. Pairs well with mushrooms, game, leg of lamb and aged cheeses. Biodynamic.

This cuvee comes from 4 parcels covering 2.75 acres situated mid-slope and spread in homogenous fashion over the whole Corton appellation, Burgundy. Easterly exposure. The soils are deep and made up in equal parts of limestone and clay. vines have an average age of 36 years. The grapes were harvested by hand. Vinified with indigenous yeasts in open cement vats for 15-20 days. Aged 18-20 months in old barrels. Bottled unfined and unfiltered.

The Domaine has been owned by the de Nicolay family since 1834. Their cellars lie under the stunningly beautiful Louis XIV Chateau, built in 1704 and surrounded by beautifully designed Le Notre gardens. The estate itself consists of 34 acres just outside Beaune covering 15 different appellations (red and white) mainly in Savigny lès Beaune, Pernand Vergelesses, Volnay and Corton. Claude and Francois de Nicolay are the sister and brother team that manage the estate. Their aim is to achieve as transparent and pure an expression of the terroir as possible. Their cellars lie under the chateau, a jewel of eighteenth-century French architecture. Although owned by the family since 1834, the estate had languished somewhat during the twentieth century. In the 1980s Claude and Francois' mother Nadine decided to revive the domaine. In the 1990s she was joined by Claude, who had trained in viticulture and oenology in Dijon. In 2001 Francois came on board, bringing an unusual mix of business savvy and an enthusiasm for biodynamics. While they share responsibilities, Claude mainly takes care of the cellar, and Francois the vines. Their aim is to achieve as transparent and pure an expression of the terroir as possible.

AN EASTERLY WINE SELECTION • BELFAST, ME

Tasting Note:

CHANDON DE BRIAILLES

CORTON-BRESSANDES

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## Shelf Talker:

