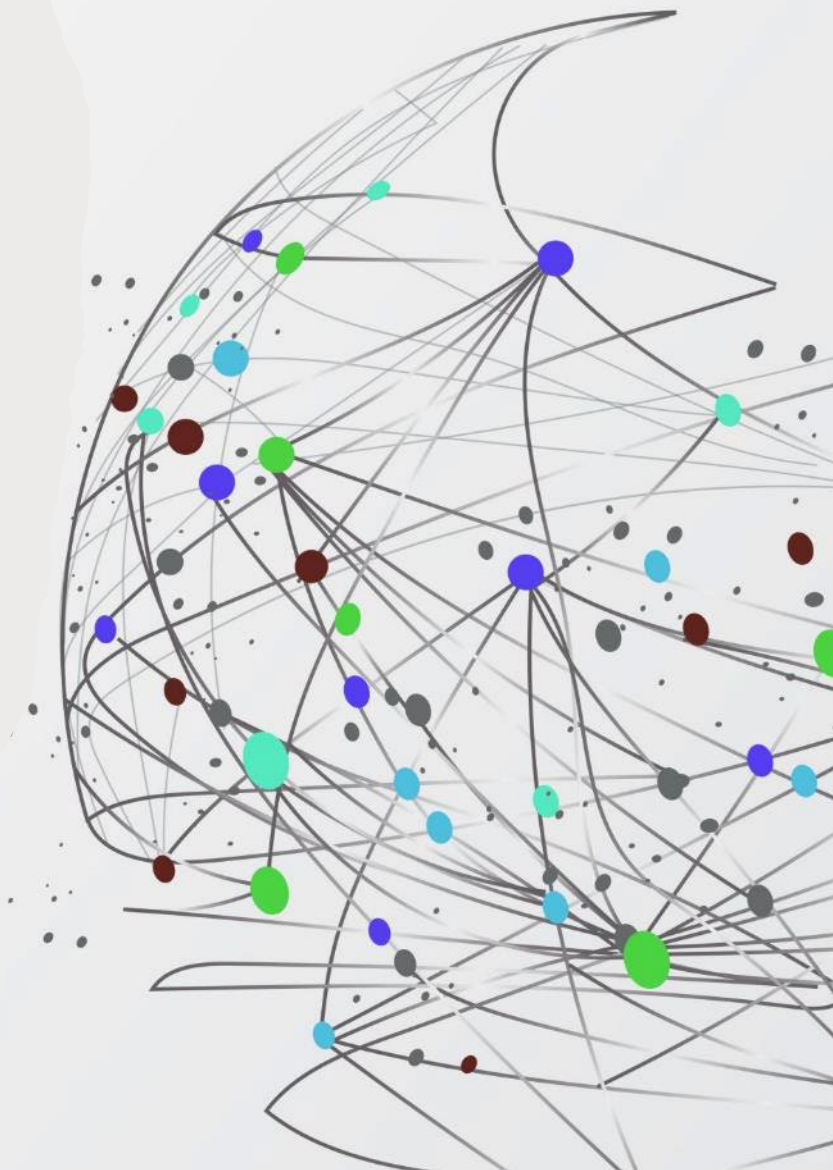


# CRITICAL TASTING PANEL: TRANSPARENCY OF CHARDONNAY

Moderator: Amanda Danielson

Madeline Triffon, Dr. Paolo Sivilotti,  
Thomas Houseman



# OBJECTIVES

- Chardonnay is the most widely planted white grape variety in the world. It is grown in many wine-producing regions across the globe and is known for its versatility in producing a wide range of wine styles, from sparkling wines to rich, oaked whites.
- Chardonnay is renowned for its ability to reflect terroir as it ages. As wines age, these terroir-driven elements can become more pronounced and complex.

Here's how Chardonnay's ability to reflect terroir evolves as it ages:

Mineral Expression

Acidity and Balance

Complex Aromatics

Texture and Mouthfeel

Oak Influence

Evolving Complexity

# WHY CHARDONNAY?

Michigan planted Chardonnay 50 years ago, at the same time of other regions of the world (Oregon, New York, Ontario, Adelaide Hills and Tasmania, Marlborough and Central Chile, Italy)

**50 years** time for:

- a) Clonal Selection
- b) Vineyard Site Selection
- c) Vineyard Management
- d) Harvest Timing
- e) Winemaking Techniques
- f) Oak Aging
- g) Blending
- h) Wine Styles



## OBJECTIVES OF THE CRITICAL TASTING

Conducting a critical wine tasting with wines from similar climatic regions and years of experience in working with Chardonnay grapes can provide valuable insights into how this grape variety contributes to expressing the terroir of a region



# CRITICAL TASTING ROADMAP

- Assess Terroir Expression Through Chardonnay Wines
- Identify Regional Distinctions
- Correlate Winemaking Practices and Terroir Expression
- Establish Quality Benchmarks
- Provide Guidance for Future Plantings and Winemaking Practices
- Contribute to Regional Identity

# CRITICAL WINE TASTING

Region 1 and Wine 1



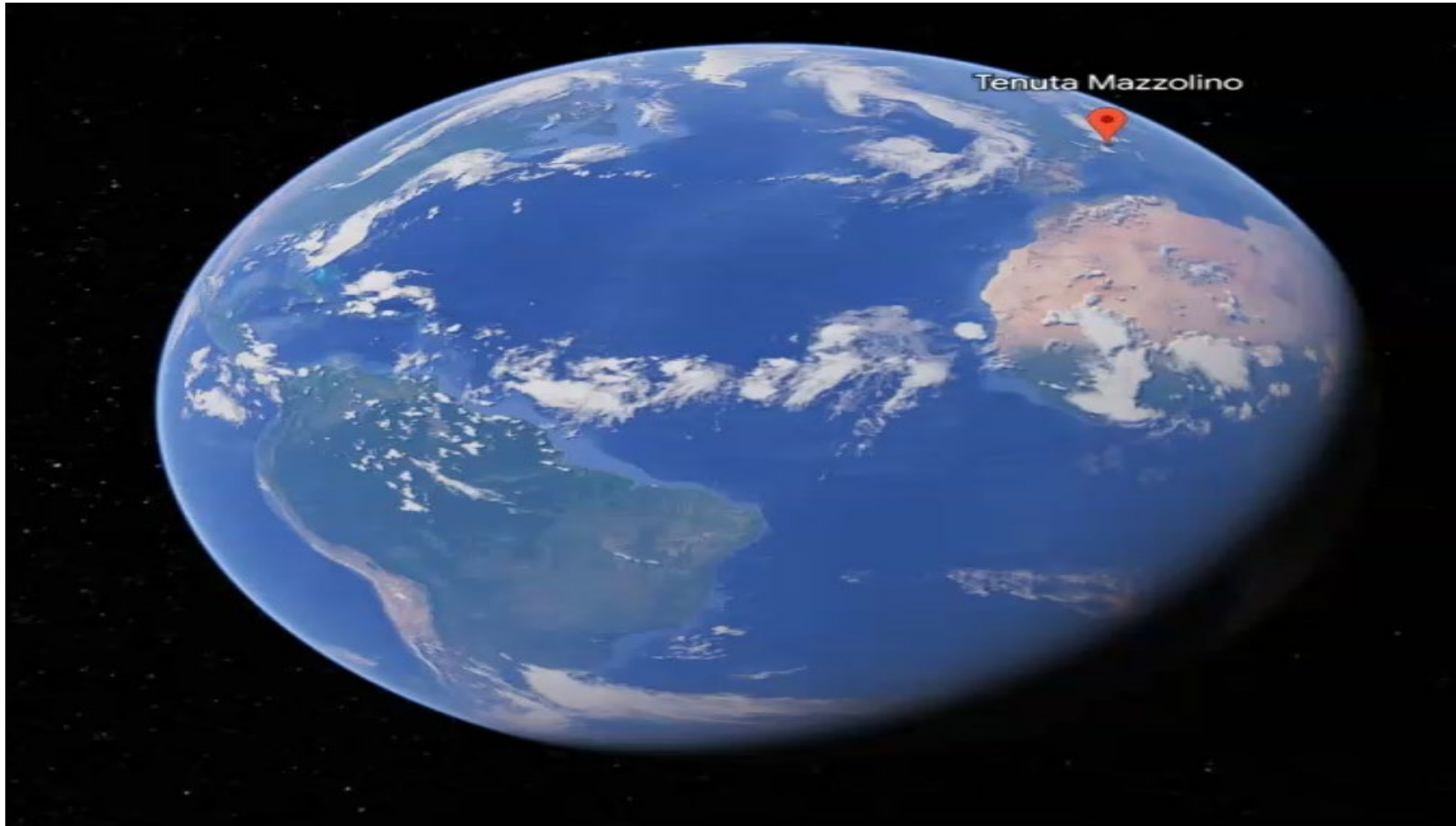
BLANC



CHARDONNAY



TENUTA MAZZOLINO 'BLANC'  
CHARDONNAY PROVINCIA DI PAVIA,  
ITALY



TENUTA MAZZOLINO



TENUTA  
MAZZOLINO  
'BLANC'  
CHARDONNAY  
2020  
PROVINCIA DI  
PAVIA IGT,  
LOMBARDIA

Wholesale cost	\$20.00
ABV	13%
Site	2.5 HA
Vine age	25 years
Soil	Limestone, marl chalk
Latitude	45 N
Altitude	180 – 220 m
Winemaking	Fermentation in barrel
Ageing	10 months French oak w/battonage
Vineyard management	Green manure, spraying with copper & sulfur only



TENUTA MAZZOLINO 'BLANC' CHARDONNAY 2020



**Francesca Seralvo**  
Owner



**Stephen Malchiodi**  
Winegrower

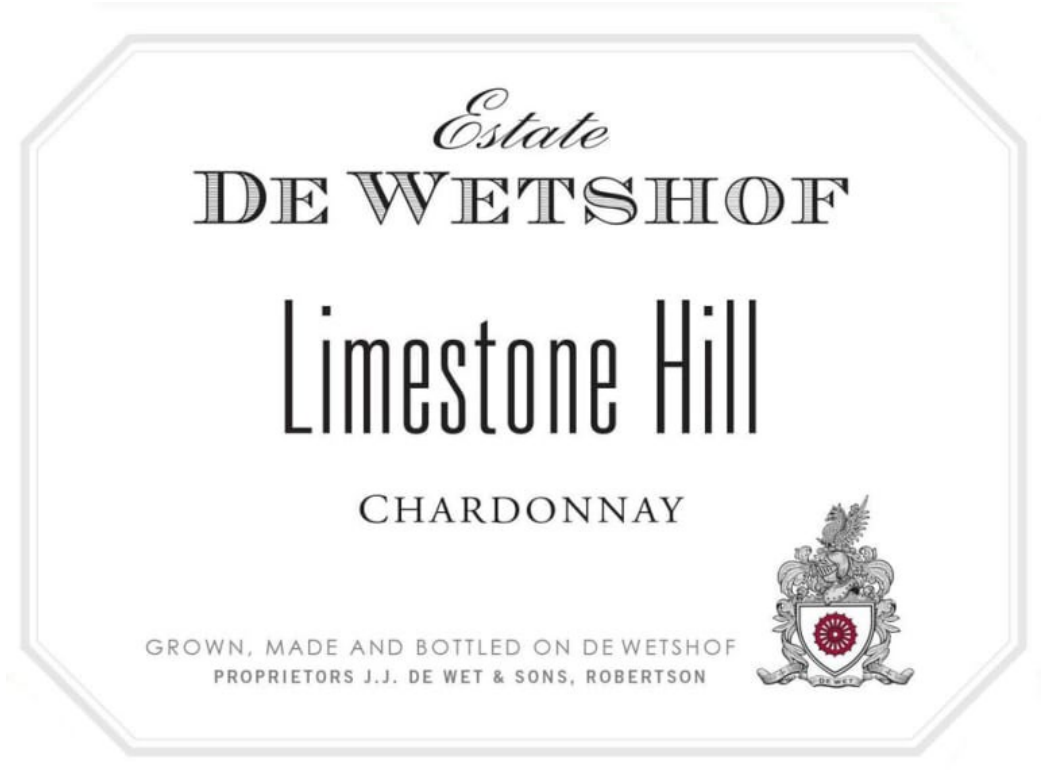
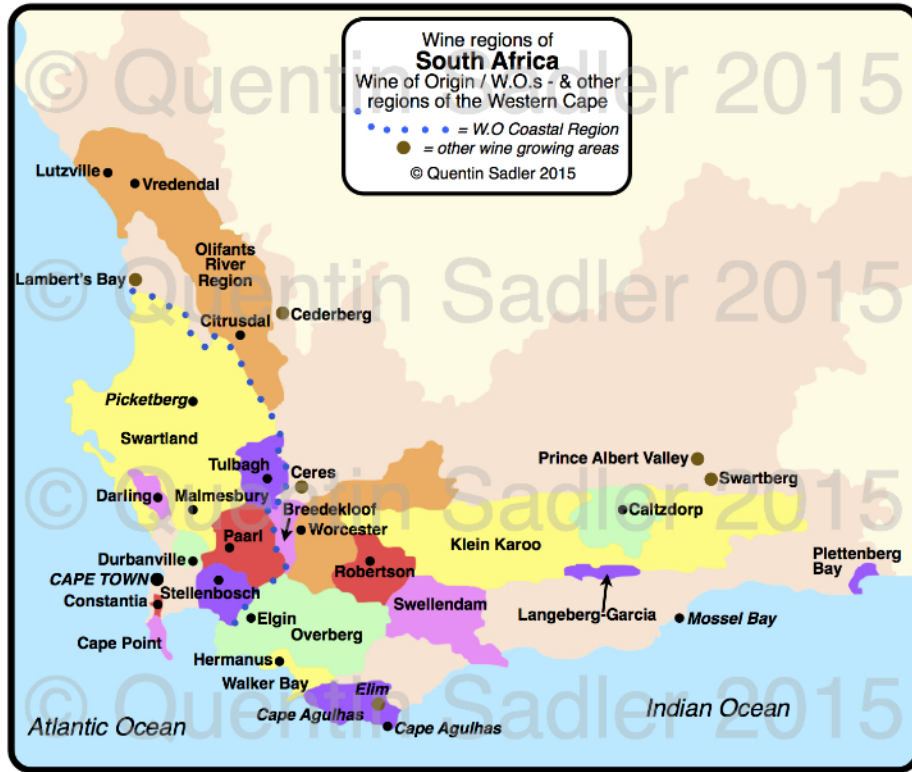


**Kyriakos Kynigopoul**  
Enologist

# CRITICAL WINE TASTING

Region 2 and Wine 2





DE WETSHOF ESTATE 'LIMESTONE HILL'  
 CHARDONNAY 2022, ROBERTSON, SOUTH  
 AFRICA



DE WETSOF ESTATE 'LIMESTONE HILL'

DE WETSOFF  
ESTATE  
'LIMESTONE  
HILL'  
CHARDONNAY  
2022  
ROBERTSON,  
SOUTH AFRICA

Wholesale cost	\$14.50
Alcohol	14%
Total acidity	6.7 g/l
Residual Sugar	3.6 g/l
Age of vines	7 - 22 years
Vines per HA	4000 & 4500
Soil	Limestone
Elevation	490 feet
Yield	5 - 8 tons per HA
Rootstock	Richter 99 & 110
Planting	2.4m x 1m and 1.83m x 1.2m
Latitude	33 52' 38" South, 20 0' 35" East
Ageing	Tank maturation, 4 months, on the lees

DANIEL DE  
WETSOFF, WITH  
SONS JOHANN  
& PETER







DE WETSOFF ESTATE 'LIMESTONE HILL'

# CRITICAL WINE TASTING

Region 3 and Wine 3





GOODFELLOW  
FAMILY CELLARS

OREGON CHARDONNAY  
WILLAMETTE VALLEY

GOODFELLOW CHARDONNAY 2020  
WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON



GOODFELLOW CHARDONNAY 2020  
WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

GOODFELLOW  
CHARDONNAY  
2020  
WILLAMETTE  
VALLEY,  
OREGON

Wholesale cost	\$20
Vine age	20 years, average
Soil	Sedimentary, volcanic
Two vineyards	Durant in Dundee Hills AVA Whistling Ridge in Ribbon Ridge AVA
Ageing	20 months in oak barriques, 800 liter foudres & large format puncheons, on the lees, undisturbed

# PINOT PALOOZA

## ON TOUR

**MARCUS & MEGAN**  
GOODFELLOW FAMILY CELLARS, OREGON



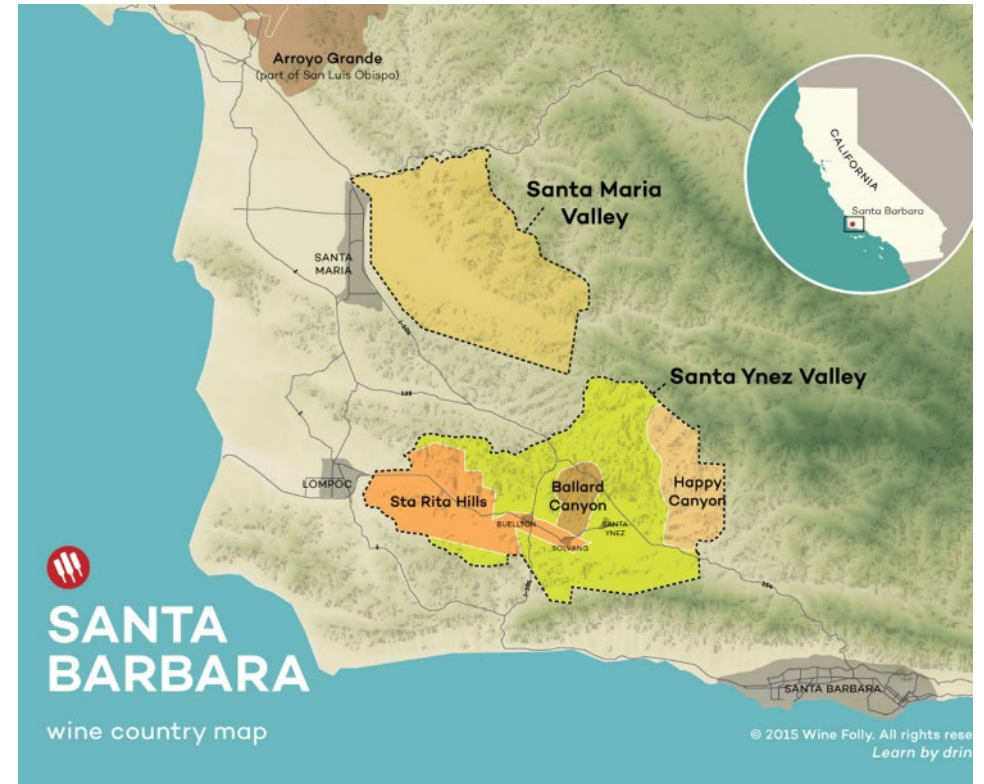
# JORY SOILS & VAN DUZER PASS

# CRITICAL WINE TASTING

Region 4 and Wine 4







SANDHI CHARDONNAY 2021 SANTA  
RITA HILLS, CALIFORNIA



SANDHI CHARDONNAY 2021 SANTA RITA  
HILLS, CALIFORNIA

SANDHI  
CHARDONNAY  
2020 SANTA  
RITA HILLS,  
CALIFORNIA

Wholesale cost	\$22.50
ABV	12.8%
Production	1,862 cases
Vineyards	Domaine de la Cote, estate fruit (82%), Sanford & Benedict (10%), La Riconada (8%)
Viticulture	Practicing organic
Winemaking	Free run/low pressure press; indigenous yeast, 4-6 months in tank; rests on lees with no battonage 100% malolactic fermentation in barrel
Ageing	10 months in 500L used Stockinger puncheons, 6 months in tank



RAJAT PARR



SASHI MOORMAN

# TRANSVERSE VALLEYS

