

JEB DUNNUCK

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MORLET *Family Vineyards* BORDEAUX VARIETALS

2016 '**PASSIONNÉMENT**' CABERNET SAUVIGNON **100 POINTS**

Pure perfection, the 2016 ‘Passionnement’ is a selection of the top barrels in the cellar. Incredible in every way, with a huge nose of blackcurrants, chocolate, crushed rocks, tobacco, and incense, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, building to an elegant texture, ultra-fine tannins, and a finish that won’t quit. This is a Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon at its finest. I’d be happy to drink bottles today, tomorrow, and in 25 years.

2016 '**FORCE DE LA NATURE**' CABERNET FRANC **99 POINTS**

The 2016 ‘Force de la Nature’ is only made in top vintages and it certainly delivers the good in 2016, offering a complex bouquet of crème de cassis, roasted coffee, forest floor, and candied violets. Incredibly complex, it offers more spice and incense notes as it sits in the glass. It’s full-bodied, multi-dimensional, layered, and perfectly balanced on the palate, with its fruit, acidity, and tannins all flawlessly integrated. Give bottle 2-4 years in the cellar if you can, and enjoy over the following two decades. Hats off to winemaker Luc Morlet, who unquestionably has a magic touch with both Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.

2016 '**MORLET ESTATE**' CABERNET SAUVIGNON **97+ POINTS**

The 2016 ‘Morlet Estate’ is always a more structured, masculine wine compared to the ‘Passionnement’ release. Opulent notes of black fruits, chocolate, smoked earth, and some obvious minerality all emerge from this full-bodied, structured, big-boned Cabernet Sauvignon that’s going to benefit from 4-5 years of bottle age and keep for 2-3 decades.

2016 '**CŒUR DE VALLÉE**' CABERNET SAUVIGNON **97 POINTS**

The 2016 ‘Cœur de Vallée’ is a thrill a minute, offering awesome notes of blue fruits, chocolate, incense, candied violets, and high-class cigar tobacco. As seamless and elegant as they come, yet also opulent and sexy, this [is a] remarkable Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink it over the coming 2-3 decades.

2016 '**MON CHEVALIER**' CABERNET SAUVIGNON **96 POINTS**

The 2016 ‘Mon Chevalier’ comes from Knights Valley and was brought up in puncheons. A gorgeous bouquet of sandalwood, violets, loamy earth, and incense as well as some iron-laced black and blue fruits flow to a rounded, supple, incredibly textured Cabernet that has sweet tannins, a stacked mid-palate, and a great finish. It’s already terrific yet will keep for 20-25 years or more.

2016 '**LES PETITS MORLET**' CABERNET SAUVIGNON **92 POINTS**

Sourced from younger vines and mostly Cabernet Sauvignon, the 2016 ‘Les Petits Morlet’ boasts a saturated purple color as well as beautiful black fruits, smoked earth, and cedar aromas and flavors. The entry-level Cabernet Sauvignon from Luc Morlet, it has beautiful purity, a full-bodied mouthfeel, ripe tannins, and a great finish. Drink it over the coming 10-15 years.

2017 '**LA PROPORTION DORÉE**' WHITE BORDEAUX-STYLE BLEND **98 POINTS**

Checking in as 65% Semillon and 34% Sauvignon, from dry farmed vines in Sonoma County, the 2017 ‘La Proportion Dorée’ was barrel fermented with the malolactic fermentation blocked. This is a big, blockbuster styled effort that offers a huge nose of spiced apples, quince, candle wax, and white flowers that develops beautifully with time in the glass. Rich, full-bodied, and concentrated on the palate, yet at the same time displaying bright acidity and beautiful purity, this is a serious effort that would give a top vintage of Haut Brion Blanc a run for its money! Drink it any time over the coming decade!

2013 '**BILLET DOUX**' LATE HARVEST WHITE WINE **96 POINTS**

Luc also makes a brilliant dessert wine. His 2013 ‘Billet Doux,’ from vines planted in 1953 and harvested with plenty of botrytis, was barrel fermented and checks in with 125 grams of residual sugar. This beauty has lots of honeyed orange blossom, lychee, and caramelized citrus aromas and hits the palate with full-bodied richness, beautiful sweetness, and a balanced, clean, lengthy finish. It will stand beside any number of Sauternes and is another brilliant wine from this talented winemaker.

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