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WINE ADVOCATE
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MORLET *Family Vineyards*

2016 **'FORCE DE LA NATURE'** CABERNET FRANC **100 POINTS**

The very deep purple-black colored 2016 'Force de la Nature' is a little closed to begin, emitting slowly releasing scents of rose hips, oolong tea, dried roses, red loam and pencil shavings over notions of kirsch, redcurrant jelly, crushed black berries and black raspberries plus a waft of chocolate box. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is wonderfully elegant, giving beautifully fine-grained tannins and just enough freshness to lift the perfumed fruit to a very long finish. Morlet's spectacular 'Force de la Nature' continues to set the bar sky-high for Napa Valley Cabernet Franc.

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

Very deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 'Passionnément' leaps from the glass with notes of licorice, chocolate mint, warm cassis, plum preserves, charcoal and smoked meats with touches of lilacs and cedar chest plus a waft of pencil lead. Medium to full-bodied, the palate has a quiet intensity at first that grows exponentially in the mouth into an aria of epic proportions, revealing layer upon layer of savory/sweet flavors, bags of black fruits and tons of spicy sparks all within a firm, very finely grained frame, finishing very long and with compelling minerality. This is a staggeringly stunning and very singular Cabernet achievement by Luc Morlet – bravo!

2016 **'MORLET ESTATE'** CABERNET SAUVIGNON **96 POINTS**

Composed of 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from Margaux cuttings, the deep garnet-purple colored 2016 'Morlet Estate' features bold notions of crème de cassis, mocha, Black Forest cake and hoisin with hints of chargrill, sautéed herbs and truffles. While generously fruited and full-bodied, the palate reveals beautiful elegance and bags of finesse, displaying super ripe, grainy tannins with great freshness, finishing very long and mineral laced.

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

This is the last vintage when this wine will come exclusively from Beckstoffer's To Kalon vineyard. In the future it will come (more and more) from Morlet's own new vineyard in Oakville—just across from To Kalon. A blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon and 13% Cabernet Franc, the 2016 'Cœur de Vallée' has a very deep purple-black color and reveals compelling notes of minted blackcurrants, black cherries and wild blueberries with touches of sage, cigar box, tilled black soil and Indian spices with a suggestion of cardamom. Full-bodied and laden with densely packed, muscular fruit, it has a rock-solid frame of ripe, grainy tannins and seamless freshness, finishing very long with those To Kalon spices lingering with fantastic persistence.

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

The estate-grown 2016 'Mon Chevalier' is a blend of 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Cabernet Franc, 1% Malbec and 1% Petit Verdot. Very deep purple-black in color, it charges forth with intense notes of crushed black cherries, black berry preserves and cassis scents with touches of spearmint, Indian spices, espresso and dried lavender plus a waft of roses. Full-bodied, the palate reveals incredible restraint, slowly revealing earth and black fruit layers framed by firm, grainy tannins and just enough freshness, finishing very long and spicy.

2017 'LA PROPORTION DORÉE' WHITE BORDEAUX-STYLE BLEND

(97-100) POINTS

The 2017 'La Proportion Dorée' is a blend of 66% Sémillon, 33% Sauvignon Blanc and 1% Muscadelle from 30+-year-old dry-farmed vines barrel fermented with bâtonnage. It presents a wonderfully spicy nose of allspice, powdered ginger and white pepper over a core of lemon curd, ripe apricots and guava plus underlying hints of baking bread, marzipan and honeysuckle. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is packed with stone fruit and tropical fruit flavors, framed with a refreshing line and a beautifully creamy texture, finishing epically long and wonderfully spicy.

2016 'LA PROPORTION DORÉE' WHITE BORDEAUX-STYLE BLEND

98 POINTS

The 2016 'La Proportion Dorée' is a blend of 67% Sémillon, 32% Sauvignon Blanc and 1% Muscadelle from 30+-year-old dry-farmed vines barrel fermented with bâtonnage. It comes strutting out of the glass like a total rock star, singing notes of ripe grapefruit, lemon meringue pie and white peaches with hints of beeswax, lime blossoms, candied ginger and nutmeg. Medium to full-bodied, the palate lends a seductively satiny texture with layer upon layer of citrus and stone fruit notions and a racy backbone to support, finishing on a long-lingering chalky note.

2013 'BILLET DOUX' LATE HARVEST WHITE WINE

95 POINTS

The 2013 'Billet Doux' is a late-harvest wine composed of 58% Sémillon, 36% Sauvignon Blanc and 6% Muscat from 64-year-old dry-farmed vines affected by noble rot and barrel fermented. It features exuberant notions of lemon tart, peach preserves, orange blossoms and mandarin peel with touches of candied ginger and honeycomb. The palate is rich, sweet and unctuous with a compelling oiliness to the texture wonderfully offset by great freshness, finishing long and honeyed.

2016 'LES PETITS MORLET' CABERNET SAUVIGNON (*Younger Vines*)

93 POINTS

This is their second label for the Cabernet, produced from the barrels that didn't make the cut for the final blend. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2016 'Les Petits Morlet' comes bursting forth out of the glass with gregarious notes of warm cassis, blackberry preserves and chocolate-covered cherries with hints of black tea, wild sage and tobacco. Full-bodied and laden with crunchy black fruits, it has a solid frame of ripe, grainy tannins and great vivacity right through the long finish.

2015 'LES PETITS MORLET' CABERNET SAUVIGNON (*Younger Vines*)

92 POINTS

This is their second label for the Cabernet, produced from the barrels that didn't make the cut for the final blend. Very deep garnet-purple colored, the 2015 'Les Petits Morlet' gives up expressive red and black currants notes with underlying hints of Chinese five spice, bay leaves, pencil lead and dark chocolate with a waft of lavender. Medium to full-bodied, it coats the mouth with black fruits and red berry sparks, framed by grainy tannins and lovely freshness, finishing long and juicy.