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**Platinum Best in Category Red Côte de Beaune over £15 Jaffelin, Les Duresses 1er Cru, Auxey-Duresses 2013 (12.5%)**

*Expressive wild strawberry, cranberry, thyme and violet aromas explode from this classy wine. Svelte, crunchy red fruit on the palate, and an impressive tannin structure. Lots of energy follows through to a long and impressive finish.*

£30 Burdett Wines, Cambridge Wine Merchants, Firth & Co, Hayward Bros, Hennings, The Oxford Wine Co, The Wine Co, Vineyards of Sherborne

\$43 Matinicus Wines (USA)

**Tasted against** ■ Albert Bichot, Hospices de Beaune Cuvée Docteur Peste, Corton Grand Cru 2012 ■ Domaine Yves Girardin, Château de la Charrière, Les Vignots, Pommard 2013 ■ Jean-Luc & Paul Aegerter, Reserve Personnelle, Pommard 1er Cru 2014

WHAT THE PERFUME business lost, the wine industry gained. Marinette Garnier (pictured above) was born in Burgundy and was planning to become a ‘nose’, but found herself studying oenology at Dijon Univeristy.

Her first vintage, during her studies, was in Meursault in 2007, and she joined Jaffelin in 2011. This négociant and wine producer, created by two brothers in 1816, is based in Beaune and owns a winery in Nuits-St-Georges.

Her vision for this Platinum-winning wine is to show what Pinot Noir from Burgundy means to her. Fruit comes from low-yielding, 80-year-old vines on Jaffelin’s softly sloping 0.75ha parcel of the Les Duresses premier cru at the entrance of the Combe de Monthélie. Soils are the local limestone *comblanchien* and the east-facing vines benefit from northerly winds. It’s the combination of the old vines, the vineyard’s location and the soil that is responsible for the success of the wine, Garnier says.



**Platinum Best in Category Red Côte de Nuits over £15 Domaine de la Vougeraie, Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru 2014 (13%)**

*An explosion of wild strawberry and blackberry fruit on the nose with an array of florals and toasty oak notes. The palate is big, bold and juicy with velvety, structured tannins and a masterly fruit and oak balance. Tasting wonderful now but will be even more impressive in the future.*

£110 Berry Bros & Rudd  
POA Boisset Collection (USA)

**Tasted against** ■ Albert Bichot, Bonnes-Mares 2013 ■ Albert Bichot, Clos de la Roche Grand Cru 2014 ■ Château De Santenay, Les Pruliers 1er Cru, Nuits-St-Georges 2014 ■ Château de Santenay, Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru 2014 ■ Domaine de la Vougeraie, Bonnes-Mares 2014 ■ Jaffelin, Chambolle Musigny 2013 ■ Labouré-Roi, Chambolle Musigny 2014

HEAD FOR THE top of the east-facing slope, walk left off the alley which leads to the Château du Clos de Vougeot, and that’s the Domaine de la Vougeraie vineyard. It is just over 1ha within the 50ha clos, on a soil of silt, pebbles and chalk, and produces 6,000 bottles of this Platinum winner annually.

The domaine was created in 1999 by Jean-Claude Boisset, who was born in the village of Vougeot. He consolidated all the vineyard holdings he had acquired in Burgundy over the years, which straddle 30 appellations and six grand cru vineyards, with a total production of 150,000 bottles. Farming has been biodynamic for 15 years.

Winemaker Pierre Vincent says his philosophy is ‘delicate’, and he aims to reflect the typicity of the terroir in his wines. For this wine, Vincent looks to bottle ‘nothing less than the power and finesse that this 50-year-old vineyard represents’.

