



88  
points

Drink: 2013-2015

**2011 Bret Brothers Macon Villages Cuvees  
Terroirs du Maconnais**

The 2011 Macon-Villages Cuvees Terroirs du Maconnais is a blend of several terroirs around the region and was the first cuvee made by les freres Bret. It has a pleasant green apple and limestone-scented bouquet with fine definition, perhaps more so than the Macon-Chardonnay. The palate is smooth on the entry with light apricot and citrus peel notes that gently crescendos toward a seductive, pure, subtle finish. This is very approachable. Drink now-2015.

My first port of call with Jasper Morris MW was at Domaine de la Soufrandiere, the estate in Vinzelles that was acquired by Jules Bret in 1947 when it accommodated barely one-hectare of vines. Over the ensuing years, the vineyard acreage was expanded and this has continued under his son, Jean-Paul, although the wines were sold to the local co-operative, "Cave

- Neal Martin (August, 2013)

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90  
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**2011 Bret Brothers Pouilly Fuisse en  
Carementrant**

The 2011 Pouilly-Fuisse Le Carementrant comes from south-facing, active limestone soils just below the cliff in Vergisson and sees 11 months in used barrels. It has a well-defined bouquet whereby the subtle oak lends the aromatics the lift they need, while the palate is supremely well-balanced, gradually building with subtle citrus notes, apricot and a touch of lime zest on the finish. Excellent.

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Drink: 2014-2018

**2011 Bret Brothers Pouilly Fuisse la Roche**

From the same elevation as Le Carementrant but from east-facing vines, the 2011 Pouilly-Fuisse La Roche has an intense, mineral-rich, flinty bouquet that blossoms in the glass. The palate is struck through with fine nervosite. There is palpably great tension here with a precise, very focused attack on the finish. It is a little more backward than the other 2011s from Bret Brothers so I might just give this wine six months in bottle. Drink 2014-2018.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Pouilly Fuisse le Clos  
Reyssie**

The 2011 Pouilly-Fuisse Le Clos Reyssie is located in Chaintre and comes from 70-year-old vines at the bottom of the slope. It has an elegant, mineral-driven bouquet that is precise and offers apple-blossom and a touch of nectarine. The palate is well-balanced with a fine line of acidity: hints of apricot and white peach, then a lovely nougat tinged finish that lingers in the mouth. This is very fine indeed.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Pouilly Loche la Colonge**

The 2011 Pouilly-Loche La Colonge has a delightful bouquet that is perhaps a little herbaceous in style, but there is nothing wrong with that. The palate is tightly wound with moderate depth, however it shows a slight attenuation on the finish.

My first port of call with Jasper Morris MW was at Domaine de la Soufrandiere, the estate in Vinzelles that was acquired by Jules Bret in 1947 when it accommodated barely one-hectare of vines. Over the ensuing years, the vineyard acreage was expanded and this has continued under his son, Jean-Paul, although the wines were sold to the local co-operative, "Cave Cooperative de Vinzelles." It was not until the late-1990s when the reins were handed to Jean-Paul's sons, Jean-Philippe and Jean-Guillaume, that they entertained the notion of bottling the wines themselves and therefore the maiden vintage...

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**2011 Bret Brothers Pouilly Loche les Mures**

Much better than the "La Cologne" is the 2011 Pouilly-Loche Les Mures, which races out of the blocks with a splendid stony, honeysuckle-scented bouquet that demonstrates great clarity. The palate is well-balanced with just a dash of spice on the entry. It is very harmonious with good weight and a touch of brown sugar on the finish.

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**2011 Bret Brothers St Veran en Combe**

The 2011 St Veran En Combe is located near Chasselas and comes from 40-year-old vines. It has a delicate bouquet of peaches and cream that is very enticing. The palate is well-balanced with a silver bead of acidity: plenty of crisp green apple and nectarine that leads to a composed if slightly short finish that still remains satisfying. Fine.

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**2011 Bret Brothers St Veran la Cote Rotie**

The 2011 Saint Veran La Cote Rotie is from south-facing vines on a steep slope (more than 40%). It has a vibrant bouquet with subtle notes of licorice and mint behind the citrus fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with a fine, slightly saline entry. There are touches of blackberry leaf among the citrus fruit that leads to a refined finish.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Macon Chardonnay**

The 2011 Macon-Chardonnay is 90% vinified in tank and 10% in barrel between 5 and 15 years old. It has a light fragrant bouquet with touches of green apple and lychee. The palate is quite light with a fine acidity, though it is missing a little presence and weight toward the finish.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Macon Cruzille**

The 2011 Macon-Cruzille is picked slightly later than the Macon-Chardonnay since it occupies a higher elevation and lies behind the hills. It was fermented in one demi-muid and four barrels. It has a lifted, stony bouquet with touches of limestone and flint infusing the citrus fruit. The palate is well-balanced with subtle, clear honey notes on the entry, and touches of Clementine and apricot that are folded into a harmonious, mellow finish that caresses in the mouth. This is a sensual, fulfilling Macon.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Macon Cruzille Clos des Vignes du Mayne**

The 2011 Macon-Cruzille Clos des Vignes du Mayne comes from a vineyard original planted by the monks at the Cluny monastery and just two or three barrels are produced each year. It has a powerful bouquet with ripe grapefruit and tangerine aromas as well as honeysuckle and white flowers. The palate is well-balanced with primal grapefruit and peach notes on the entry. One sample at the BIVB needed a little more tension although a second bottle tasted at the winery developed more nervosite in the glass and exhibited greater persistency in the mouth.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Macon Uchizy la Martine**

The 2011 Macon-Uchizy La Martine is a blend of two climats from organically certified vines. It has a superb bouquet with lifted mineralite and delineation rendering it almost Chablis-like in style. The palate is harmonious with presence and depth, a fine line of acidity and hints of lemon peel, lime and honeysuckle toward the ebullient finish. This is totally seductive.

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**2011 Bret Brothers Vire Clesse la Verchere**

The 2011 Vire-Clesse La Verchere comes from organically grown 75-year vines north of Vire, and is habitually a later ripening vineyard. It has a more floral bouquet with apricot blossom and rose petals scents that are feminine and well-defined. The palate has a lovely peach infused opening: hints of honey in the background with a sweet, ripe generous finish. Very fine.

My first port of call with Jasper Morris MW was at Domaine de la Soufrandiere, the estate in Vinzelles that was acquired by Jules Bret in 1947 when it accommodated barely one-hectare of vines. Over the ensuing years, the vineyard acreage was expanded and this has continued under his son, Jean-Paul, although the wines were sold to the local co-operative, "Cave Cooperative de Vinzelles." It was not until the late-1990s when the reins were handed to Jean-Paul's sons, Jean-...

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**2011 Bret Brothers Vire Clesse Sous les Plantes**

From 60- to 80-year-old vines in the south of Vire, the 2011 Vire-Clesse Sous Les Plantes offers a more rounded, smoky, almost flinty bouquet with fine definition. The palate is well-balanced but missing the complexity and presence of the "La Verchere" in this year, the finish just a little obvious perhaps. I would drink this before the aforementioned Vire-Clesse.

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