



from the inimitable **JIM CLENDENEN**

**2004 Winemaker of the World** *Wein Gourmet*

**50 Most Influential Winemakers** *Wine & Spirits Magazine*

**50 World-Wide Creators of Modern Classic Wines** *Oz Clarke*

**2001 Winemaker of the Year** *Food & Wine Magazine*

**Best Wineries of the World** (Au Bon Climat) *Robert M. Parker, Jr.*

## CLENDENEN FAMILY VINEYARDS

S A N T A M A R I A V A L L E Y

*Jim launched Clendenen Family estate in 2000 with tiny amounts of exceedingly special grapes harvested from his own meticulously-farmed home vineyard. The grapes are vinified in a highly personal fashion, resulting in unique wines that are as distinctive in character as they are fascinating vinified statements within the international context.*

### **RIESLING** *Santa Barbara*

### **SAUVIGNON BLANC** *Mesa Verde Vineyard*

Sauvignon Blanc can manifest as anything from lemon-limey margarita-sh to oaky faux-chardonnay. This incarnation is quite fresh, showing melon and pear along with some smokiness from barrel-fermentation; excellent complement to goat cheese, shellfish, or fish and lighter fowl marinated, grilled, and shared outdoors.

### **TOCAI FRIULANO** *"Borgo Buon Natale"*

Planted by Jim Clendenen on leased land at Bien Nacido Vineyard in 1994. Barrel-fermented in neutral oak, aged sur-lie through malolactic, and bottled unfiltered... *exuberant, with melon and apple fruit – long, zesty, refreshing and complete, attractive texture and great acidity.*

### **GEWÜRZTRAMINER** *Sanford & Benedict Vineyard*

Grown in one of the oldest, most respected vineyards in the Santa Rita Hills, this aromatic 100% Gewürztraminer was fermented in neutral barrels and aged three months in French oak. *Featuring vibrant lychee and rose petal scents, the wine offers a palate of fresh jasmine and black walnut – an exciting expression of Gewürztraminer and a revelation for New World incarnations of this grape. The wine is dry but quite flavorful, an aperitif to complement spirited conversation, and a delightful complement to Asian cuisine, especially spicy Thai food.*

### **VIOGNIER** *Le Bon Climat Vineyard*

*Stephen Tanzer's IWC on the 2011: **91 points** "Green-tinged gold. A highly perfumed bouquet evokes ripe peach, orange, honey and white flowers, with a slow-building vanilla nuance. Pliant and expansive, offering juicy, spice-accented citrus and pit fruit nectar flavors and a touch of bitter quinine. Finishes sappy and long, with lingering floral, spice and honey qualities."*

### **CHARDONNAY** *Le Bon Climat Vineyard*

Barrel-fermented and aged in 100% new François Frères Bertranges oak, this creamy, regal Chardonnay was grown in Clendenen's **certified-organic** home vineyard planted in 1998; 500 6-packs produced. *Aromas of crème brûlée and dried flowers mix with smoky, leesy notes; flinty, dry Chardonnay shows some obvious wood tannin, offset by richness infused through barrel-aging; impeccably balanced, deeply complex, ageworthy.*

*Antonio Galloni's Vinous on the 2010: **94 points** "The 2010 Chardonnay Le Bon Climat opens with knock-out aromatics. Translucent and super-expressive, the 2010 boasts an enticing mélange of aromas, flavors and textures that is compelling. A host of orchard fruit, spice, butter, pastry and pear open up, but it is the wine's textural beauty and overall feel to be absolutely irresistible. Just entering the early part of its drinking window, the 2010 is an absolute jewel of a wine."*

*Stephen Tanzer's IWC on the 2008: **92 points** "Intriguing aromas of pear, melon, nectarine, lees and smoky minerals. Silky orchard fruit and orange pith flavors are lifted by tangy acidity and complemented by notes of honeysuckle and anise. Fleshy but lithe chardonnay, finishing with impressive clarity and spicy length."*

*Thank you for your time and for your interest in Connoisseur wines.*

CONNOISSEUR WINES • 7510 NORTH CALDWELL AVENUE, NILES, ILLINOIS 60714 • 847.588.1300

connoisseurwines.net

ORGANIC

ORGANIC