

# VIEW FROM THE CELLAR

## Chinon Cornuelles 2012

**93+** John Gilman - View from the Cellar

"As I noted last year, when reviewing the 2010 Cornuelles, Monsieur Plouzeau has a fine parcel of fifty year-old vines in this excellent terroir and the wine is aged in four and five year-old, 450 liter barrels. The 2012 Cornuelles is a lovely follow-up to the 2010, offering up a fine and quite youthful bouquet of dark berries, gravelly soil tones, cigar ash, a touch of tree bark, gentle meaty tones, espresso and a topnote of fresh herbs. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, nicely structured and quite soil-driven in personality, with a lovely core, moderate, ripe tannins and excellent length and grip on the focused and very promising finish. This is a very good example of how the low yields of 2012 have not adversely affected the overall quality of the wines, just the quantity, and this may well outpace the fine 2010 Cornuelles from Marc Plouzeau in the years to come! Fine, fine juice. 2018-2040."

## Chinon Clos de la Bonneliere 2012

**93** John Gilman - View from the Cellar"

This is the first vintage of les Clos that I can recall tasting from Marc Plouzeau. This is a far more chalky terroir than les Cornuelles, which has more clay and produces a more robust and meaty wine as a result, and the 2011 les Clos shows the inherent refinement that this vineyard can produce in a top vigneron's hands. The bouquet is simply beautiful, wafting from the glass in a blend of dark berries, coffee bean, sweet black cherries, a very complex base of soil and a topnote of cigar ash. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and nascently complex, with a lovely core, excellent focus and balance, ripe tannins and excellent length and grip on the still quite structured finish. This will be a lovely wine with a bit more bottle age. 2018-2035+."