

# DOMAINE CHANSON

## **2017: PRECOCIOUS, GENEROUS AND VELVETY**

### **THE METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS**

After a classic winter with some snow and a week of frost, the budburst was quite precocious (early April in Côte de Beaune) and was followed by important heat. After Easter, we experienced a cold spell which lasted 15 days and caused everybody to fear another frost episode like 2016 and its dramatic consequences. Fortunately enough the vineyards of Burgundy were not affected this year except in some very limited spots in Côte Chalonnaise and in Chablis.

May was rainy (73 mm) and temperatures at the end of the month were close to 33°C. Those conditions led to speed up the growth, putting the team under pressure (flowering started on June 2nd in Côte de Beaune and on June 5th, in Côte de Nuits. In June and July several heat waves hit France with temperatures averaging 37°C. The lack of water slowed down the maturation of the grapes. Fortunately storms brought water at the right moments and thus the vineyards could resume their normal biological cycle. The harvest started on September 6th, in outstanding conditions with grapes fully ripe and healthy. They finished on September 27th.

### **THE WINES**

The specificity of this vintage: reds and whites are both excellent.

The white wines are very well-balanced and precise. Our vinification and aging process with a very moderate use of new oak allows a very pure expression of the fruit and terroir. The wines are well-structured, fresh with a persistent finish and displaying a lot of elegance.

The red wines are also superb, with a bright ruby colour. On the nose, they are energetic displaying an array of aromas, depending on the appellation, from raspberry to black currant to cherry. Floral fragrances are present also (peony, rose and violet). The oak flavours remain quite discreet and elegant giving off delicate spicy notes, cocoa and roasty notes. In the mouth the wines are well-structured, dense with a sappy texture and velvety tannins. Although they are already very pleasant, those 2017 reds have an outstanding aging potential similar to vintages like 2005 or 2010.

Côte de Beaune wines played the game quite well, probably because of the early ripening and the yields that were lower than in Côte de Nuits.

### **VINCENT AVENEL AND JEAN-PIERRE CONFURON**

