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WINE BY LANCE SPARKS

HOT PINKS

May your summer come up rosés

We're getting hot. Summer swelter bears down on us. Gone are those sweetly cooling mists and marine-effect clouds and those lovely air-washing rains. I mean really hot, gasping, throat-drying hot — and just about the same time as our local growers are filling our markets with eye-popping piles of fresh produce.

Happily, we've got the right wines, pretty pinks that can perk up produce and cool out the BBQ. And suddenly pinks are popular. Sundance proprietor Gavin McComas expressed amazement at the increasing sales of rosés and at "how much tastes have changed."

For years, rosés have languished in the shadows, lost to the unsavory reputation (and jumbo sales) of so-called "blush" wines, especially mass-produced, sickly sweet white zinfandels.

Let's get clear about this: There's nothing wrong with liking sweet "white zins," as they're called in the trade. In wine, as in other matters of "taste," personal preference comes first. Too, those "white zins" made fortunes for some California wineries.

For just one notable example, **Beringer** white zin probably provided that producer with the capital underpinnings (profits) that made it possible for them to develop the program that led to some of the world's best (Napa Valley) cabernet sauvignons. The wine is sweet, sure, but it takes chilling very well and it's cheap (\$6) and hugely popular, despite the scorn of wine sophisticates.

But wine sophisticates much prefer drier rosés, particularly those produced in the Provence region of France, where rosés have long been taken very seriously, and some of which now command prices in three figures.

The rosés bearing the labels of **Chateau D'Esclans**, for example their **Garrus 2010** (\$97.50, on special), tend to be very pale yet complex in flavors, at least as complex as rosés can get,

with distinctive orange-rind notes accented by ginger and spice. Save some bux, try **Domaine de la Fouquette 2013 Cuvée Rosée D'Aurore** (\$15), superbly clean, with zippy acidity, bright berry palate.

Check labels: Importer Kermit Lynch's name on a bottle almost guarantees high quality. **Eric Chevalier Pinot Noir Rosé 2012 Val de Loire** (\$16) delivers silky balance, essence of cherries.

Rosés emerge from nearly every wine region: Italy, Spain, France (of course), all across the U.S. People who love wine drink rosés in the summer because they're so versatile, so flavorful, so adaptable to summer foods. And they come in various shades and forms, from bubbly to still wines, from pale to deeply colored, almost light-bodied reds. Some of our favorites:

Capitello Brut Rosé, Olivia's Cuvée (\$42) is simply superb, all pinot noir grapes, bursting with flavor, self-described as "scrumptious."

J. Albin Brut Rosé (\$30) is also lovely, a bubbly for summer sipping.

There are so many excellent rosés on wine-shop shelves now — Sundance Wine Cellars, our state's largest wine store, stocks 100-plus — that producers must fuss about packaging. One of the most intriguing labels comes from Washington (Benton City) but looks as complex as any label from France: **The House of Independent Producers 2013 Sagemoor Vineyard Rosé of Syrah** (\$16) is delicious, pinkish but generous in flavors — cherries and cranberries, some citrus — with a sprinkle of pepper.

Locally, look for rosés from **Territorial, J. Scott, King Estate's Acrobat**, many others. **Sarver 2012 Pinot Noir Rosé** (\$21) is deep pink, worth every penny for its red-berry flavors and velvety texture.

Bring on the heat. Bring the luscious produce. We have rosés and corkscrews. We are not afraid.

Best wishes for your August: May your summer eves come up rosés. ■

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad: **CALL** 541.484.0519 **EMAIL** classy@eugeneweekly.com **WEB** classifieds.eugeneweekly.com

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EVENTS CALENDAR

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EVENTS

ANNUAL GLASS STOCK ART FAIR SALE
1068 W 2nd Ave, Cornerstone Glass Eugene
Sun August 31 12-6pm Mon Sept 1st 10-2pm

INSPIRATIONAL SOUNDS, a non-demoninational, community based Gospel choir is having a POTLUCK/PICNIC on Mon. Aug. 18th, 6:30pm at River Rd Emerald Park. 1400 Lake Dr. off Howard Ave. Current & former members, friends, and persons wanting info about the choir are invited to join us for the evening. Please bring food to share. For more info 541-995-8459 or 541-512-3770

FOR SALE

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE® THRIFT SHOP
1149 Willamette, 541-485-3721.
Tues - Sat 10-4

REMIX APPAREL EXCHANGE located at 1449 Mohawk Blvd in Springfield, men's and women's resale clothing store meets art studio. While you search through our constantly changing name brand inventory, enjoy all the local artist's work on the walls and coming through the speakers.

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the Bohemian Yogini Shop
Yoga Clothes, Tapestries, Incense

Edibles

SEA STAR ENTERPRISE F/V OCEAN LADY "M" PORT DOCK 5, Newport, OR **FRESH ALBACORE TUNA, CHINOOK SALMON** & other species of fish. Order in advance to reserve your fish. Accept cash, check, credit cards. Murielle 541-961-1246 seastarentz@gmail.com

Garage Sales

BIG! 30-YR YARD SALE THIS WEEKEND 30+years of world travel collecting, house-keeping, housebuilding & maintenance, emptying drawers, attics, selling everything. Corner W. 15th & Lawrence. Aug. 16 & 17, Noon to 6.

BULLETIN BOARD

Announcements

AGE OF AQUARIUS = SYNTHESIS & HOPE
Ancient Teachers Return, with Ageless Wisdom. All Will Be Well. Maitreya is here. www.share-international.org **TAKE HEART**

Classes

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Lost & Found

KAYAK STOLEN FROM BALLINGER LANDING 8/10 around 7pm. "Aire" purple-grey kayak. Reward \$100. Call 541-747-4655

Opportunities

EUGENE PEACE CHOIR Come sing for the planet with our new director, Randy Moore. All voices welcome. Julia 541-968-5896. julia@eugenepeacechoir.com

PERFORMERS NEEDED Use creative expression as a part of healing for unique show on addiction recovery. No experience needed. Also need singers. Call 541-554-3337

Wanted

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Pets

GREENHILL HUMANE SOCIETY Everybody Deserves a Good Home. Fri-Tues 11am-6pm, Closed Weds & Thurs. 88530 Greenhill Rd, 541-689-1503 green-hill.org Look for our Pet of the Week!

SHELTER ANIMAL RESOURCE ALLIANCE S.A.R.A.'s Treasures Gift & Thrift Shop. Volunteer, Donate, Shop, **ADOPT!** 871 River Road, Open Daily 10am-6pm. 541-607-8892 sarastreasures.org **LOOK FOR THIS WEEK'S RESCUED CAT.**

Adoption/Family Services

PREGNANT? THINKING OF ADOPTION? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/New Mexico/Indiana [AAN CAN]

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted

SCIENCE TEACHER part-time, for small alternative high school. Bachelor's degree required. Must have rapport with teens, creative teaching ability, flexibility. Email resume and cover letter to dennis@well-springsfriends.org.

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