

My Favorite Rieslings

Volume 39.

SONJA CHRIST

THE 61ST GERMAN WINE QUEEN, ELECTED ON OCTOBER 9TH, 2009
FAMILY OWNS A WINE ESTATE IN OBERFELL IN THE MOSEL-SAAR-RUWER REGION
DRIVES A CAR IN HER VILLAGE EMBLAZONED WITH THE MONIKER: "SONJA CHRIST, GERMAN WINE QUEEN"
SITS ON A TASTING PANEL FOR THE WINE MAGAZINE *SELECTION*
SECRETLY THOUGH, SHE YEARNS TO MAKE DORNFELDER

RIESLING TROCKEN, *VON DEN TERRASSEN*, KNEBEL, 2008, MOSEL-SAAR-RUWER \$52.
-THE GRAPES ARE PICKED AT SPÄTLESE RIPENESS AND FERMENTED DRY; THE VINEYARDS ARE SUPER STEEP AND INCLUDE HAMM, UHLEN AND DOMGARTEN

RIESLING SPÄTLESE TROCKEN, *WINNINGER RÖTTGEN*, KNEBEL, 2008, MOSEL-SAAR-RUWER \$78.
-80-YEAR-OLD VINES GROWN IN THE MID-SLOPE OF THIS SPECTACULAR VINEYARD

WINNINGER HAMM (WE FOCUS ON THE HAMM VINEYARD BUT APPLY ITS IDEAS TO ALL THE VINEYARDS BELOW) IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPRESSIVE VINEYARD SITES ALONG THE LOWER PART OF THE MOSEL. SHORTLY BEFORE THE RIVERS MOSEL AND RHINE COALESCE IN KOBLENZ, THE MOSEL BENDS ALONG THE STEEP HILLS AROUND THE PICTURESQUE VILLAGE WINNINGEN. THIS IS WHERE THE VINEYARD'S NAME ORIGINATES FROM; THE LATIN TERM "HAMMUS" MEANS BENDING. STARTING IN THE BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC CENTRE OF WINNINGEN, A HIKING TRACK LEADS YOU THROUGH THE VINEYARDS SURROUNDING THE VILLAGE - RECOMMENDED ONLY FOR THOSE WITHOUT VERTIGO. STANDING IN THE STEEP VINEYARD AMONGST THOUSANDS OF GRAPE VINES AND LOOKING DOWN TOWARDS THE MOSEL RESOLVES ALL DOUBT THAT **WINEGROWING IN THIS REGION IS TOUGH HANDWORK**, BUT FRUITY AND DELICATE WINES OF A GREAT BALANCE COMPENSATE THE VINTNER. THE STEEP TERRACES OF **WINNINGER HAMM** ARE FACING SOUTH; ADDITIONALLY THE RIVER CAPTURES THE SUN'S WARMTH. IN COMBINATION WITH THE SOIL CONSISTING OF FINE BLUE AND GREY SLATE THIS MICROCLIMATE SIMPLY BEARS EXCELLENT GROWING CONDITIONS FOR THE GREATEST OF ALL WHITE WINE GRAPES; RIESLING. WINES FROM **WINNINGER HAMM** ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR GREAT MINERALITY, SINCE RIESLING VINES ROOT MANY METERS INTO THE SLATEY GROUND AND ABSORB ITS MINERALS. MOREOVER, THE WINES ARE VERY ELEGANT AND REFRESHING. ENJOY IT AND HAVE A WONDERFUL "SUMMER OF RIESLING"!

1. UHLEN 2. HAMM 3. DOMGARTEN 4. BRÜCKSTÜCK 5. RÖTTGEN

