

Wine Spectator

2022 NEW YORK WINE EXPERIENCE

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What makes all the presentations so special is not just the wines, but also the heartfelt stories. Florent Latour shared two beautiful Burgundies from Maison Louis Latour, appearing in place of his brother Louis-Fabrice Latour, who died in September. “It is a fitting tribute to a wonderful man with a big heart who left us too soon.” said senior editor Bruce Sanderson at the seminar.

Louis-Fabrice Latour, the 11th generation to lead Burgundy’s Maison Louis Latour, died of cancer at age 58, just two months before the Wine Experience. His brother Florent, stepped in to present wine No. 6: the Corton-Charlemagne 2018 a hand-harvested Chardonnay fermented in 100% new French oak. While 2018 was a ripe vintage, Florent recalled that “things clicked together,” and the domaine produced a wine of tension, strenght and generous fruits - a fitting wine to mark his brother’s legacy.



Wine No. 6

WINE STAR

MAISON LOUIS LATOUR



Florent Latour

In Burgundy, the name Louis Latour is legendary. Founded in 1797, the maison became one of the region’s most important

producers, with some of the largest *grands crus* holdings in the Côte d’Or.

Louis-Fabrice Latour, who expanded the family’s holdings into Chablis, Beaujolais and beyond, died of cancer in September, at age 58. His brother Florent presented two wines during the seminar, while Louis-Fabrice’s wife, Patricia, and daughter Eléonore—slated to succeed her father in leading the domaine—poured the Corton Château Corton Grancey 2019 at the Grand Tastings. In a moving tribute, Florent remembered his older brother as a savvy businessman, skilled winegrower and gentle steward of the land. Fiercely committed to all of Burgundy, Louis-Fabrice took pride in protecting the cross of Charlemagne and worked to establish the area as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and prevent a hotel from being built on the hill of Corton.

Louis-Fabrice took the reins from his father in 1999, so the Corton Château Corton Grancey 1999—the estate’s flagship red, a blend of several Pinot Noir *grands crus*—was one of the first made under his direction. At 23 years old, the wine was singing. Senior editor Bruce Sanderson called it “a perfect example of why you age wines” and “a fitting tribute to a wonderful man with a big heart [who] left us too soon.” Florent also introduced the Corton-Charlemagne 2018, which was recognized as *Wine Spectator*’s No. 6 Wine of 2021.

As Maison Louis Latour looks to the future, these wines served as beautiful reminders of its distinguished past. In Florent’s words: “We’re always building on the shoulders of our elders.” —K.M.