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**Domaine Latour-Giraud (Meursault)**

2012 Pommard - Cuvée Carmen	red	(86-89)
2012 Pommard "La Refène" 1er	red	(88-91)
2012 Volnay "Clos des Chênes" 1er	red	(87-90)

Jean-Pierre Latour told me that 2012 was an "extremely tough vintage to manage given the poor flowering, hail storms and constant disease pressure that plagued us until the second half of August. We began picking on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September and you had to pick very carefully because some parcels required major sorting and others were completely clean. I would put our net yields at about 40% of a normal harvest though at least the results are quite encouraging. I would describe the wines as very concentrated, rich and powerful yet with excellent balance. In fact they remind me a bit of 2010 but with a bit more fruit." Latour said that he would probably bottle the reds in March. Note that there is no Meursault "Caillerets" in 2012 due to the very tiny yields. (Atherton Wine Imports, [www.awiwine.com](http://www.awiwine.com), Atherton, CA, Chemin des Vins, [www.chemindesvins.com](http://www.chemindesvins.com), MA; Bibendum Wine Ltd., [www.bibendum-wine.co.uk](http://www.bibendum-wine.co.uk), Thorman Hunt & Co., [www.thormanhunt.co.uk](http://www.thormanhunt.co.uk), both UK).

**2012 Pommard – Cuvée Carmen:** (from Les Vignots). Strong reduction flattens the nose though there is good verve and freshness to the impressively rich and concentrated medium weight flavors. The ripe tannins coat the mouth on the moderately rustic but not really austere finish and overall this is very Pommard in basic character. (86-89)/2018+

**2012 Pommard "La Refène":** Here there are no reduction issues as the expressive nose displays a pretty array of cassis, black cherry and damp earth scents. There is good lift and a lovely sense of vibrancy to the lightly mineral-inflected medium-bodied flavors that possess a notably more refined mouth feel before culminating in a lingering if ever-so-slightly dry and rustic finish. Note that my predicted range assumes that most if not all of the dryness is due to the abundant gas rather than under ripe tannins and thus should mostly dissipate once the wine is bottled. (88-91)/2018+

**2012 Volnay "Clos des Chênes":** There is a background touch of reduction present on the discreet wooded nose that is sufficient to push the fruit to the background but it does seem ripe. There is impressive size, weight and richness to the stony and powerful middle weight flavors that display good length on the finish where there is also noticeable dryness though in this case it is more prominent and thus I am less certain that the balance will not ultimately be affected. Note that pessimists will wish to drink this on the young side for its fruit and optimists will elect to age it for up to a decade. (87-90)/2018+