

ALPHONSE MELLOT

# OUR WINES

## LA MOUSSIERE - SANCERRE WHITE

A. MELLOT SATELLITE SANCERRE AOC 2008

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'Satellite' comes from four, old plots in Chavignol whose vines are between 40 and 77 years old. Harvesting methods are per 'La Demoiselle.' Fermentation is done in 60% new 300l oak barrels and 40% in 20hl wooden tank. The wine is aged on the lees for 8 to 12 months.

"Light yellow-gold. Ripe tangerine and melon aromas, with exotic floral and spicecake notes that expand with aeration. Stony and energetic but offers dense orchard fruit and honeydew flavors, and a deft balance of vivacity and power. The broad, sappy finish leaves spice and sweet pear notes in its wake. These vines are located in Chavignol."

**93 points Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, March/April 10**

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"Mellot's 2008 Sancerre Satellite – his first cuvee from old vineyards in Chavignol – smells intriguingly of peach, pineapple, parsnip, passion fruit, lemon, white currant, and an almost garrigue-like mingling of resin and herbs. Subtly oily in texture yet displaying a certain initial brightness thanks to its salt-tinged white currant and citrus, this finishes persistently, with the addition of decidedly low-toned notes of meat stock, toasted nuts, and caraway, as well zesty citrus, salt, and chalk. I'd challenge this densely-concentrated, undeniably complex Sauvignon to dishes that might not ordinarily call to mind "Sancerre."

Forty year old Alphonse Mellot has now spent half his life running the domaine of his eponymous father and grandfather, in the process acquiring an enviable reputation, almost as much for his Pinots as for his Sauvignons. I regret – especially in view of my reservations (detailed in the tasting notes) about his approach – my not having had time to visit him this year, which explains the absence of a report from barrel on his 2009 reds or on all but two of his 2009 whites. (Incidentally, I do not recommend that any similarly skeptical tasters linger at Mellot's web site, whose over-the-top wine descriptions outdo an already more than ambitious-enough reality, thus doing neither him nor us any favors.)"

**90 Points E. Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate Issue# 190, Aug 2010**