

FONDATION



PRESS RELEASE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 30TH, 2022

THE CHÂTEAU DU CLOS DE VOUGEOT AND LA FONDATION DU PATRIMOINE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FRENCH HERITAGE SOCIETY, ARE JOINING FORCES TO RESTORE THE DÉFINITOIRE OF THE ABBAYE DE CÎTEAUX WITH AN INTERNATIONAL AUCTION OF EXCEPTIONAL WINES AND THE LAUNCH OF A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

[www.fondation-patrimoine.org](http://www.fondation-patrimoine.org)



*The facsimile of the above label, created especially for the auction by the Institut Supérieur Européen d'illuminure et du Manuscrit d'Angers, will appear on the Magnum, Jeroboam, Methuselah, Salmanazar and Balthazar bottles. The original work, which represents 80 hours of work, will be the label for Nebuchadnezzar*



Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux © Sotheby's Florian Perlot

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The Château du Clos de Vougeot and the Fondation du patrimoine, in partnership with the French Heritage Society, are organizing an auction of exceptional wines conducted by Sotheby's from April 8th to April 23rd, 2022. The proceeds from this auction will be donated to the fundraising campaign launched by the Fondation du patrimoine to finance the restoration and preservation work of the Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux in Burgundy. A jewel of French historic heritage, the abbey, founded in 1098, is the cradle of all the Cistercian communities in the world.

Thanks to the generosity of the « appellation » winegrowers, a **Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru 2020 “Cuvée de l’Abbaye de Cîteaux”**, divided into 113 lots, will be auctioned off by Sotheby’s. **This consists of 570 liters of wine from twenty-four estates.** This cuvée, currently being aged within the very walls of Clos de Vougeot, will be bottled in September 2022. **The auction will be augmented by 23 exceptional lots of rare Burgundy wines, in large quantities coming directly from the estates.**

Online auctions will begin on April 8th, 2022 on the website: [www.sothebys.com/vougeotpourciteaux](http://www.sothebys.com/vougeotpourciteaux). **The auction will conclude during a charity dinner held on April 23rd from 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.**

This charity dinner is organized in the prestigious setting of the Château du Clos de Vougeot, in the presence of Dom Pierre-André Burton, Abbot of Cîteaux, Aubert de Villaine, Honorary President of the Climats of Burgundy Vineyards, Guillaume Poitrinal, President of the Fondation du patrimoine and many patron winegrowers.

**During this dinner, an exceptional Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru from the Abbaye de Cîteaux will be auctioned off.** It is a Nebuchadnezzar (15 liters) or the equivalent of 20 bottles. Only dinner attendees will be able to bid. **To register for the dinner, [click here](#).**

**All the wines that are part of this auction are offered by the winegrowers for the benefit of the restoration of the Définitoire of the abbey.**

*“The Fondation du patrimoine is very pleased to be involved in organizing, along with the Château du Clos de Vougeot, a fundraising campaign and a major auction, alongside Sotheby’s, the largest estates in Burgundy and companies in the wine sector. This initiative is for the benefit of the magnificent restoration project of the Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux. This building, a veritable Cistercian parliament to bring together monks from all over Europe, from Hungary to Brittany and from Scotland to Castile, bears witness to the contribution of the order to the birth of European thought. Involved in economic, intellectual and spiritual life, Cîteaux participated in the development of the climates of Burgundy, recognized as a world heritage for humanity, in particular by founding the vineyard of the Clos de Vougeot. The Fondation wishes to thank in advance each donor as well as the participating estates, which carry on the transmission of this exceptional heritage to future generations.»*

**Guillaume Poitrinal, President of the Fondation du patrimoine**

*“The project to restore the Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux, that is to say the place where the abbots of all the Cistercian monasteries in Europe met once a year, under the authority of the abbot of Cîteaux, highlights the extraordinary radiance of the Cistercian order: spiritual radiance which, in the Middle Ages, covered Europe «with a white mantle of churches», thus prefiguring the European dream of today, but also temporal influence which, at the same time, invented and developed in Burgundy an unequalled wine growing «terroir», with its precisely defined Climats producing very great wines of which the Clos de Vougeot is the emblematic example. This viticulture still exists today, more alive than ever, faithful to the principles that gave birth to it and recognized by UNESCO as so exceptional that it was added in July 2015 to the prestigious list of World Heritage Sites of humanity. Through the restoration of the Définitoire of Cîteaux, it is the Outstanding Universal Value of Burgundy that we are upholding and highlighting.»*

**Aubert de Villaine, Honorary President of the Climats of the Burgundy Vineyards**

*“The Château du Clos de Vougeot, seat of the Climats of Burgundy Vineyards, a World Heritage Site, has been the property of the monks for more than 700 years. It was natural to put our know-how to good use for the Abbey of Cîteaux by conceiving, carrying out and hosting this charity auction in our Cistercian cellar.»*

**Arnaud Orsel, Intendant Général du Château du Clos de Vougeot**

**THE 24 ESTATES COMPRISING THE CUVÉE DE CLOS DE VOUGEOT ABBAYE DE CÎTEAUX ARE:** Château de la Tour, Domaine Méo-Camuzet, Domaine H. Rebourseau, Maison Joseph Drouhin, Domaine de la Vougeraie, Domaine Faiveley, Domaine Jacques Prieur, Château Philippe le Hardi, Domaine Thibault Liger-Belair, Domaine François Lamarche, Domaine d'Eugenie, Domaine du Clos Frantin - Albert Bichot, Domaine Michel Noëllat, Domaine Bouchard Père et Fils, Domaine Charlopin-Parizot, Maison Remoissenet, Domaine Drouhin-Laroze, Maison Louis Jadot, Domaine Mugneret-Gibourg, Domaine René Dubois, Domaine Capitain-Gagnerot, Maison Dufouleur Frères, Domaine d'Ardhuy.

These estates are donating the following rare wines from bottles to Mathusalem for this exceptional auction: Marquis d'Angerville, Domaine du Comte Armand, Bitouzet-Prieur, Henri Boillot, Domaine Bonneau du Martray, Dujac, Kloster Eberbach, Domaine des Comtes Lafon, Domaine des Lambrays, Domaine Leflaive, Domaine Leroy, Comte Liger-Belair, Jacques-Frédéric Mugnier, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Emmanuel Rouget, Domaine Georges Roumier, Domaine Armand Rousseau, Domaine Taupenot-Merme, Comte Georges de Vogüé.

## ABOUT THE RESTORATION PROJECT

The Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux dates from the end of the 17th century. It is a unique building, which served as a meeting place for abbots from all over Europe to come together to govern the Cistercian order. Today, the community of Cistercian monks wants to give it a second wind. The project is to restore this Burgundian heritage in peril and to open it more widely to the public for cultural and scientific purposes. The restoration budget is estimated at nearly 15 million euros.

**In order to support the restoration work, the Fondation du patrimoine and the Abbaye de Cîteaux have launched a fundraising campaign:** [www.fondation-patrimoine.org/abbaye-notre-dame-de-citeaux](http://www.fondation-patrimoine.org/abbaye-notre-dame-de-citeaux).

The objective of this campaign is to raise 1 million euros.



*Définitoire of the Abbaye de Cîteaux © Sotheby's Florian Perlot*



## ABOUT THE CHÂTEAU DU CLOS DE VOUGEOT

Former cellar of the Abbaye de Cîteaux, the Château du Clos de Vougeot, headquarters of the Climats of the Burgundy Vineyards, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and headquarters of the famous Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, has a unique savoir-faire. Over time, it has created its own unique and original activity, shaped by more than 1,200 gala dinners and receptions organized in this exceptional site. Its 12th century cellar, which once housed the Clos de Vougeot wines, is now recognized as the most prestigious of all tables d'hôtes. It celebrates arts and culture, gastronomy and a certain art de vivre.



*Château du Clos de Vougeot which will host the charity dinner © Fef Air Berg Production*

## ABOUT THE FONDATION DU PATRIMOINE

The Fondation du patrimoine was created by virtue of the July 2, 1996 law and is recognized as being for the public good by a decree of April 18, 1997. With its 21 regional delegations, its action is carried out by a network of more than 800 volunteers who work every day for the preservation of local heritage.

Since its creation 25 years ago, the Fondation du patrimoine has financially supported the restoration of 35,000 public and private heritage sites. These theaters, churches, fountains, factories, parks, residences, ancient vehicles and other sites constitute an immense wealth for France in a world in constant change.

By actively participating in strengthening regional appeal, the Fondation has become, over the years, a special partner for local actors and an effective engine for the sustainable economic development of our country by contributing to the creation of jobs, participating in the transmission of know-how, professional integration, and training young people.

According to a Fondation du patrimoine-Pluricité 2020 study, each euro invested in heritage generates 21 euros in economic benefits.

Currently, the Fondation du patrimoine has on-going fundraising campaigns for nearly 3,000 projects on its website: [www.fondation-patrimoine.org](http://www.fondation-patrimoine.org).

## ABOUT FRENCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

French Heritage Society is an American non-profit association created in 1982 which is dedicated to the preservation of the French heritage in France and the United States by awarding restoration grants; perpetuating the know-how, knowledge and love of heritage through educational programs and exchanges between the two countries; and by strengthening Franco-American friendship and promoting a better knowledge of the two cultures. For more information, please consult : [www.frenchheritagesociety.org](http://www.frenchheritagesociety.org).