San Francisco Chronicle

TOP 100 WINES 2010



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2009 BENZIGER SIGNATERRA SHONE FARM VINEYARD RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY SAUVIGNON BLANC (\$24):

Shone Farm again proves its extraordinary potential for this grape, with a classic peppery, chivey green profile amid rich apple, nectarine and vibrant lime peel. Serious, layered Sauvignon Blanc, very much embracing austere minerality but offering a food-friendly edge.

Bordeaux nor to New Zealand. They are very much their own creatures, perhaps nodding toward the direction of the Loire or Friuli, where Sauvignon Blanc is taken seriously.

We salute that; it's time to put this grape's cheap and easy reputation in the past. Sauvignon Blanc can be serious without being pretentious.

