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Domaine Latour-Giraud (Meursault)

2017	Meursault "Caillerets" 1er	red	89
2017	Pommard – Cuvée Carmen	red	87
2017	Pommard "La Refène" 1er	red	90
2017	➔ Volnay "Clos des Chênes" 1er	red	92

I will have more on Jean-Pierre Latour's views of the 2017 vintage but it would be fair to describe them as "enthusiastic, which is understandable as he fashioned some very impressive whites. For the reds, I found the quality of them to be on par, or slightly better than, what I found in general in the southern Côte. Importantly though, Latour did note that the reds were bottled only two days before my late February visit so it's always more challenging to taste wines shortly afterwards. (Atherton Wine Imports, www.awiwine.com, CA, Chemin des Vins, www.chemindesvins.com, MA both USA; Bibendum Wine Ltd., www.bibendum-wine.co.uk, Thorman Hunt & Co., www.thormanhunt.co.uk, and Atlas Fine Wines, www.atlasfinewines.com, all UK).

2017 Pommard – Cuvée Carmen: There is a mild touch of reduction that isn't enough to mask the spicy black cherry, cassis and earth nuances. The juicy and succulent medium weight flavors are relatively concentrated while terminating in a suave yet serious, persistent and gently rustic finish. There is a hint of backend dryness but I attribute this to the recent bottling. 87/2024+

2017 Meursault "Caillerets": An overtly ripe nose features notes of cassis, poached plum and airy spice wisps. The delicious and more refined middle weight flavors also reflect more evident minerality on the moderately austere and rustic finale. This is presently quite firm and it's going to require at least 5 to 7 years to be approachable and 10 to 12 to fully resolve the supporting structure. 89/2027+

2017 Pommard "La Refène": Slightly riper liqueur-like yet still appealingly fresh aromas of red raspberry and cherry are laced with hints of spice and earth. There is fine mid-palate density to the delicious medium-bodied flavors that are both bigger and bolder before culminating in a serious and moderately austere but not really rustic finale. Patience will be required here as well. 90/2027+

2017 Volnay "Clos des Chênes": Here the cool nose is at once more elegant and higher-toned with its array of fresh and ripe essence of dark berry fruit, warm earth and reserve of spice elements. The caressing yet markedly powerful larger-scaled flavors possess fine mid-palate concentration while exhibiting excellent power and drive on the muscular finish. This is presently quite tightly wound and it will need at least half a dozen years to become more civilized. 92/2029+