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**MAI & KENJI HODGSON**  
(Anjou, France)

September 2020



*With Kenji Hodgson in the Faia Vineyard just outside of Rablay-sur-Layon*

“Drop in for a visit the next time you are in the Loire,” Kenji and Mai wrote to me back in 2012. So, that is how I first met Kenji and Mai Hodgson in Anjou. I, like many of our local wine lovers, knew Kenji from the annual pocket wine guide book that he used to co-write. Kenji and Mai packed their bags in 2009 and went to the Loire on a one-year work visa and they have been in Anjou ever since. Mai and Kenji live the life that wine lovers only dream about. It is beautiful to see Kenji and Mai accepted by the local respected *vignerons* in the village. During my last visit in July 2019, Kenji took me to a local artisan *vigneron* to see his vineyards and taste the wines.

The *terroirs* in *Anjou* are particular. As I drive from *Touraine* and head west towards *Anjou*, the landscape changes drastically. The white limestone houses and caves that are prevalent in *Chinon*, *Bourgueil* and *Vouvray* disappear as I drive west. I know I am nearing *Anjou* when I see houses that have roofs made of schists. Schists naturally break in layers, making them ideal material for roofing. The great Chenin Blanc of *Savennières* and *Coteau du Layon* are from the vineyards that have schists. Kenji and Mai live near the impossibly pretty village of *Rablay-sur-Layon*. There is even a great pizza & wine bistro in the village.

### **P’TIT LUCHINI 2018**

**SPECULATIVE SKU: 132710 750ml 12 bottles/case  
\$29.43 Wholesale/ \$38.00 Retail per bottle**



100% Chenin Blanc. *P'tit Luchini* is from various parcels in the *Coteau du Layon*. This wine is made in an easy drinking style, keeping the wine fresh and yet full of Chenin charm. This is a great introduction to Chenin Blanc grown on schist soil near Anjou. *P'tit Luchini* is great bistro white to accompany simple dishes that seem to pair so well.

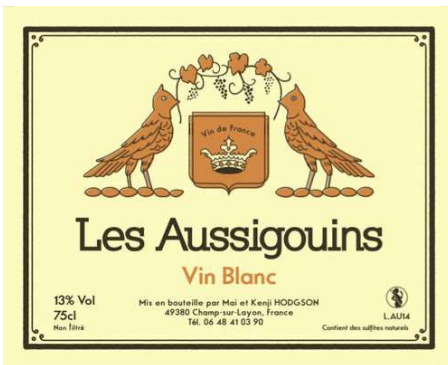
### **FAIA 2018**

**SPECULATIVE SKU: 771410 750ml 12 bottles/case  
\$38.88 Wholesale/ \$50.00 Retail per bottle**



This wine is made from 100% Chenin Blanc vines grown on schist from various parcels. Vines age ranges from 30 to 100 years old. Pretty. Complex. This wine has that magical stony mineral *cru* quality. Chenin Blanc grown on schist expresses completely different than Chenin grown on limestone. When I taste Catherine & Pierre Breton Vouvray or Bernard Baudry Chinon Blanc (both on limestone) and Mai & Kenji Hodgson Anjou (on schist), it is hard to believe the wines are made from the same grape. This wine is dry. Unfiltered.

**LES AUSSIGOUINS 2017**  
**SPECULATIVE SKU: 664243 750ml 12 bottles/case**  
**\$40.06 Wholesale/ \$52.00 Retail per bottle**



100% Chenin Blanc vines grown on a single parcel. A tad more complex and deeper than the *Faia* above. The vineyard is completely covered in schist stones. *Les Aussigouins* is from the vines in the famed *Montebenaault climat* that *Richard Leroy* made famous. Production is tiny. *Élevage* is in neutral demi muids (600 litre barrels). This wine is always singular. Broad in the mouth with lingering stony, honey after taste. Beautiful. This is a dry Chenin Blanc. This is the top Chenin for Mai & Kenji. Tastes lovely and will age beautifully for the next few years.

**Ô GALARNEAU 2015, 2017 & 2018**  
**SPECULATIVE SKU: 599761 750ml 12 bottles/case**  
**\$ 28.25 Wholesale/ \$ 37.00 Retail per bottle**



Made from 100% Cabernet Franc. During the recent annual warehouse inventory, a single case of the older vintages of 2015 and 2017 was found. The latest arrival is the 2018 vintage. The 2015 is tasty with all the Anjou charm; the 2017 is funky; and the 2018 is luscious from the plentiful sun in that vintage. We always receive a tiny amount of this wine. Wild and full of energy. It is 100% Cabernet France from old vines (+70 years) and this cuvée is from their best parcels. The grapes are harvested by hand and a portion is de-stemmed by hand. Fermentation is in open top tanks. Maceration lasts about three weeks. Unfiltered.

[www.racineimports.ca](http://www.racineimports.ca)