



Christian Moueix Biography

One of the few producers to make classic wines in both the old and new worlds, Christian Moueix is President of Etablissements Jean-Pierre Moueix, the leading wine company of Bordeaux's Right Bank, and owner of Dominus Estate in the Napa Valley.

Son of Jean-Pierre Moueix, the legendary Bordeaux wine merchant, Christian was born in Libourne, France in 1946. After completing his agricultural engineering studies in Paris and graduate studies in viticulture and enology at the University of California at Davis in 1968-69, he joined Ets Jean-Pierre Moueix in 1970 and, in 1991, became its President. A viticulturalist at heart, Christian Moueix's tenure has been marked by the introduction of revolutionary vineyard techniques including, from 1973, crop-thinning as a means to improve grape quality. Today he produces wine from ten family chateaux including, in Pomerol, La Fleur Petrus, Trotanoy, Hosanna, Providence and in Saint Emilion, Belair-Monange and Magdelaine. The vintage 2008 marked his 38th year of directing Chateau Petrus, where he remains today as consultant.

In 1982, Christian Moueix formed a partnership to produce Dominus from the historic Napanook Vineyard in Yountville. Adapting his French technical approach to Californian conditions, his focus has been on grape growing, arguing for dry-farming as both an ecological measure and a means to produce grapes of the finest quality. With great attention to the vineyard and a minimalist approach to winemaking, he produces wines of elegance, complexity and longevity. In 1995, he became sole owner of Dominus Estate, and with a continual commitment to producing classic wines from the great Napa terroirs, he acquired the Schmidt Ranch in Oakville in 2008.

A man of culture, art and literature, Christian Moueix is a model for those who are lovers of wine. His lifelong passion, focus on quality, stewardship and personal qualities of integrity, rigor and humanity, have earned him recognition over his exceptional 40 year career as one of wine's greatest visionaries. In 2008, he was named both a Legend of Wine by the James Beard Foundation in New York City and Man of the Year by Decanter Magazine in London. In 2011, Christian was awarded Wine Spectator's Distinguished Service Award.

Christian has two children, Edouard (b. 1977), Executive Vice President of Ets Jean-Pierre Moueix, and Charlotte (b. 1978), a wildlife veterinarian in South Africa. His wife, Cherise, previously a contemporary art dealer, is today the Creative Director at Dominus Estate.