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December 2022

Bott GRAEME & JULIE

"The relatively new Domaine Bott has gotten off to a fast and impressive start. Their first vintage was 2016. Graeme Bott, a native of New Zealand, and his wife Julie, born and raised in the Northern Rhône area, produce a growing range of elegant wines from their seven hectares of vineyards, from both red and white varieties. Those wines are bottled on the young side as Bott wants them to go into the bottle "as fresh as possible and do their aging there." If opened on release, I have found that these wines benefit enormously from decanting or recorking, often for several days." - Josh Raynolds, December 21, 2022



92-93 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Saint Joseph 2021

"Glass-staining violet color. Spice-tinged aromas of fresh black and blue fruits, olive and pungent flowers show sharp detail and a touch of smokiness. Sappy and focused on the palate, offering gently sweet, mineral-laced cherry, boysenberry and exotic spice flavors that deepen slowly with aeration. The blue fruit note drives a long, spicy finish that's given grip by youthfully firm but even tannins. One-third whole clusters." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



93 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Saint Joseph 2020

"Opaque magenta. Pungent blackberry and cherry liqueur scents are complemented by suggestions of violet, olive and exotic spices. Subtly chewy and expansive in the mouth, offering spice-tinged black and blue fruit and floral pastille flavors that show sharp delineation and strong, spicy thrust. Juicy and velvety in texture, finishing with insistent blue fruit, floral and spice notes and steadily building tannins. One-third whole clusters." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



92 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Saint Joseph 2019

"Dark violet. Lively blackberry, candied violet, fresh bay and cracked pepper aromas show very good clarity and pick up a deeper licorice nuance with air. Velvety, appealingly sweet black and blue fruit and cracked pepper flavors pick up olive and floral pastille qualities as the wine opens up. Finishes smoky and long, with repeating spiciness and discreet tannins adding final grip." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



91 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Saint Joseph 2018

"Deep ruby color. Ripe, smoke-tinged dark berry and floral scents show very good clarity and hints of cracked pepper and licorice. Velvety and broad in the mouth, offering juicy blackberry, cherry and violet pastille flavors that pick up a smoky nuance with air. The peppery note comes back on the clinging finish, which is framed by even, well-knit tannins." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)

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94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Cornas 2020

"Inky ruby color. Heady aromas of mineral-accented black and blue fruits, incense, violet, olive and black pepper show superb clarity. Sappy, sweet and lively on the palate, offering spice-laced blackberry, cherry preserve, floral pastille and bitter chocolate flavors that expand steadily through the back half. Deep and youthfully chewy in texture, showing outstanding clarity and spicy thrust on a youthfully tannic finish that echoes the floral and blue fruit notes." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



90-92 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Crozes-Hermitage 2021

"Fresh blue fruit, floral and cracked pepper scents, along with subtle tobacco and cola nuances. Sappy and expansive on the palate, offering jammy blueberry and cherry flavors that show good depth and spicy back-end lift. The floral notes comes back steadily on a long, smooth finish that shows just a hint of rounded tannins." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



93 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Crozes-Hermitage 2020

"Shimmering violet. Bright and focused on the nose, displaying vibrant red and blue fruit, floral, and baking spice qualities and a hint of smokiness. Deep yet energetic on the palate, offering appealingly sweet cherry, black raspberry, floral pastille and mocha flavors that betray no rough edges. In a juicy, fruit-driven style, showing impressive delineation and resonating spiciness on the persistent, gently tannic finish." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



92 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Crozes-Hermitage 2019

"Dark, bright-rimmed ruby. Ripe blackberry, cherry-cola, floral and olive scents, along with hints of smoked meat and black pepper. Offers palate-coating black and blue fruit flavors that spread out slowly with air and pick up a spicy note of black pepper with aeration. In a lush, generous style, finishing smooth, sweet and broad, with velvety tannins adding shape to a smoke-tinged finish. All de-stemmed fruit." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)

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92 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott First Flight Syrah 2020

"Opaque ruby. Vibrant, spice- and mineral-accented red and dark berries, pungent flowers and white pepper on the perfumed nose. Juicy and appealingly sweet, offering intense Chambord and cherry-cola flavors and hints of exotic spices, olive and succulent herb flavors. Steadily building tannins add shape to a long, smoky finish that leaves echoing floral and spice notes behind." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



92-94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Terroir De Seysseul Kāmaka 2021

"Dark, shimmering purple. Bright and energetic on the perfumed nose, displaying primary red and blue fruit and floral aromas that take on olive, bacon fat and black pepper notes as the wine stretches out. In a juicy, fruit-driven style, offering appealingly sweet cherry, blueberry and spicecake flavors and suggestions of allspice, licorice and smoky minerals. Finishes very long and youthfully chewy, with gripping tannins and resonating spiciness." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Terroir De Seysseul Kāmaka 2020

"Inky violet color. Deeply perfumed cassis, blueberry, licorice, smoky bacon and mineral scents show excellent detail and pick up a floral nuance with air. Densely packed and appealingly sweet, offering concentrated black and blue fruit, exotic and violet pastille flavors that show impressive energy and sharp focus. The floral note resonates on the impressively persistent finish, which features building tannins and a lingering touch of smoky minerality." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Terroir De Seysseul Kāmaka 2019

"Saturated magenta. An expansive, complex bouquet evokes red and blue fruit preserves, pungent flowers, olive and exotic spices, along with hints of smoked meat and vanilla. Deeply concentrated yet energetic as well, offering palate-coating cherry-cola, black raspberry and boysenberry flavors, with building violet and star anise notes. The berry and floral notes echo on the persistent finish, which features steadily building tannins and a touch of smokiness." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



92-94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Côte Rôtie 2021

"Expressive, mineral-accented black raspberry and boysenberry scents, along with hints of black pepper and licorice. Juicy and expansive on the palate, offering spice-laced black and blue fruit preserve, candied violet and star anise flavors that deepen through the back half. Finishes very long and youthfully tannic, with the mineral and spice notes resonating. 20% whole clusters." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



94 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Côte Rôtie 2020

"Glistening ruby. Spice- and mineral-accented cherry and black raspberry scents are complemented by suggestions of pipe tobacco, violet, smoky bacon and exotic spices. Densely packed and subtly chewy in texture, offering appealingly sweet, spice-tinged red and dark berry and floral pastille flavors that are supported by an undercurrent of juicy acidity. The mineral note returns on a very long, penetrating finish that features polished tannins and resonating florality.x000D" - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)



93 POINTS

Graeme & Julie Bott Côte Rôtie 2019

"Deep magenta. Deeply pitched aromas of cassis, cherry and licorice are energized by building mineral, floral and black pepper flourishes. Shows very good heft to its ripe black and blue fruit and olive flavors, which become livelier as the wine gains air. Well-managed tannins add shape to a very long, spicy finish that leaves bitter cherry and allspice notes behind. One-third whole clusters." - Josh Raynolds (December 21, 2022)