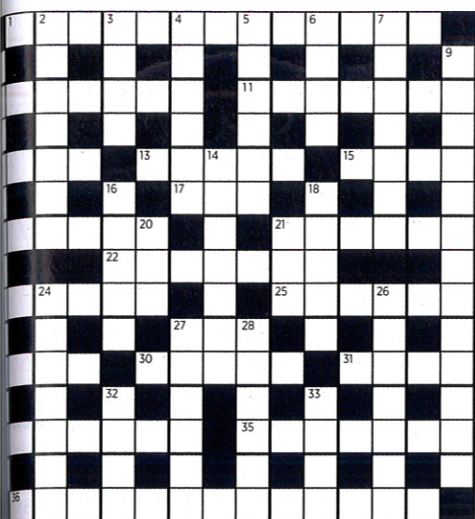


Decanter crossword



Across
 Support for growing
 wines (7,6)
 Slovenian municipality,
 associated with Laški
 Razling (7)
 Albert Seibel's French
 hybrid red variety grown
 in US northeast (7)
 covers a wine bottle's
 cork and neck (4)
 pomerol micro château
 near Pétrus (2,3)
 crumbly mixture of
 limestone and clay in
 Beaune and Pommard's
 white-ish soil (4)
 French for lee, but it
 doesn't sound like the
 truth (3)
 port shipper linked to
 Hemingways (6)
 person making an offer
 Hospices de Beaune
 charity auction (6)
 to Adige red grape
 variety when you
 align 'realign' (7)
 era appellation, home
 to Louis Pasteur (6)
 ot and Joué (6)
 secco in Italy, seco in
 Spain and Portugal, but
 that's dry in France? (3)
 ff and a typical
 translation of tuffeau
 from the French (4)
 es in Vosges, is at
 me in Saar-Ruwer,
 d found in moles (5)
 port valley, McLaren
 is one (4)
 Italian red grape,
 taking high alcohol
 ne, and useful in
 ending (7)
 rdeaux sweet white
 ne, somewhere in 'a
 cup' (7)
 with African wine
 on, home to Paarl
 Stellenbosch (7,6)

Down

- 2 Greek appellation,
home to Savatiano and
Rhoditis (7)
- 3 Can be added to soils to
neutralise acidity (4)
- 4 Home to Golan Heights
Winery and Carmel (6)
- 5 On the lees (3,3)
- 6 The short grapevine
cane, caused by
pruning, for the next
season's shoots (4)
- 7 Muscadelle Grenache
cross developed at
Davis; Ireland's isle (7)
- 8 Process for changing
vine varieties in the
vineyard, notch is an
alternative (5,8)
- 9 The process of
flowering on a vine
including stems, stalks
and flowers (13)
- 14 Vine bacterial disease
with no cure, spread by
sharpshooters (6'1)
- 16 Portuguese variety, also
known as Ugni Blanc
and Trebbiano (5)
- 18 Beurot, Bianco, Nero,
it's in the point (5)
- 20 Domaine in southern
France (3)
- 21 In the end, a wine bottle
collection (3)
- 24 DOC in Italy's Molise,
look in the bonfire (7)
- 26 Sweet reds made from
Mandelaria and Kotsifali
in Crete (7)
- 27 Major California wine
county with Russian
River Valley (6)
- 28 Where wine is made, in
a cave, cantina or
bodega (6)
- 32 De la Roche, de Tart and
de Vougeot have one (4)
- 33 Barrel stopper (4)

For answers, turn to p127

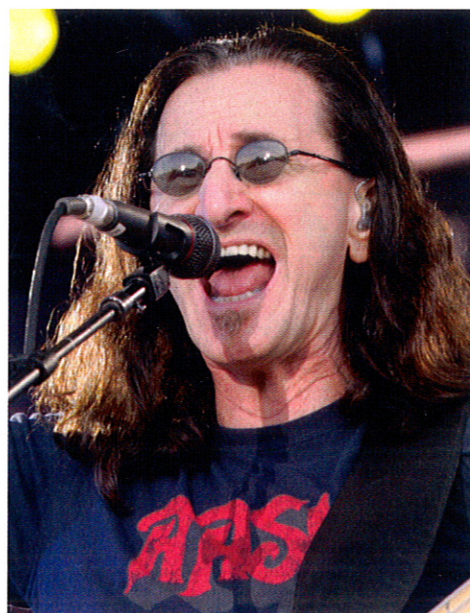
Geddy Lee

The lead singer and bass guitarist of Canadian rock group Rush has 7,500 bottles in the two cellars of his Toronto home: one for vintages to age, the other for wines to drink

I was introduced to fine wine while touring in the late 1970s. Alex Lifeson (Rush's lead guitarist) had a big interest in wine so promoters would sometimes give us wine as gifts. It was usually Bordeaux back then, a bottle of Margaux or Latour or something. **In the late '80s** I built a cellar because I found I still had so many of these bottles that had been gifted to me and I started reading about them. You can't read about wine without getting very thirsty. I started tasting them and then became completely fascinated by what I was experiencing. **A friend of mine** had a passion for the wines of France. One year he invited me to take a trip with him through the Rhône Valley and Burgundy. On our way to a tasting at Guigal we stopped at a small restaurant and bought a bottle of Comte de Vogüé's Musigny 1978. It was among the most wonderful wine experiences I've ever had. Such pure, heady aromas and complexities... I was pretty much hooked on red Burgundy after that.

I love wines from Dujac, Claude Dugat and Rousseau. Les Suchots from Robert Arnoux is one of my favourite Burgundies, and the wines of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti – when you can get them – are a thrill to drink. Madame Leroy's wines are also terrific. The Burgundy list goes on... **At home** I drink a lot of Beaujolais crus, Moulin-à-Vent, Morgon from (the late) Marcel Lapierre, Jean Foillard's Côte du Py. I also drink generic Bourgogne from good producers. When I'm buying high-end Burgundy, I try also to get these producers' Bourgogne for everyday drinking. It's delicious, simple Pinot Noir.

I collect white Burgundy too, but my passion more recently is for Austrian Riesling and Grüner Veltliner. And I love Rhône whites – La Dorian Condrieu by Guigal is one of my favourites. I also like a lot of the blends and simpler wines they're making in the Languedoc



'Such heady aromas and complexities... I was hooked after that'

with Grenache Blanc. Domaine de Trévallon makes lovely white. And I like German Riesling. **I'm not usually** excited by New World wines. I went through a period of collecting and drinking a lot of Californian Cabernets, but my heart is really in the Old World. **A lot of the white** Burgundies from the mid-'90s have not aged well. It made me less interested in drinking – and more particularly, ageing – white Burgundy, as it's such a risky business. You can find fantastic 15- or 20-year-old Marquis de Laguiche from Drouhin or Ramonet's Bienvenue-Bâtard, but there are few other producers who seem to be able to achieve that ageability. **Alex and I** always reward ourselves after a show with a good bottle of wine. It's a kind of hobby of mine to find a good bottle in whatever city we're touring in and surprise Alex with that. **D**

Geddy Lee was interviewed for Decanter by Tony Aspler

Christmas quiz, question 10 should have read: 'Which took first place at the 2006 re-enactment of the 1976 event of Paris tasting, organised by Decanter's Spurrier?' The answer: Ridge, Monte Bello 1971