

## International Wine Cellar lauds Domaine Couroulu's 2005s and 2006s

Stephen Tanzer's

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**Domaine le Couroulu.** 2006 Vacqueyras Cuvée Classique: Deep ruby. Spicy cherry and blackberry on the nose, with suave *garrigue* and black olive character building with air. Densely packed dark berry flavors are enlivened by tangy minerality, with the finish showing gentle grip and excellent persistence. Already delicious. 90. 2006 Vacqueyras Vieilles Vignes: Glass-staining purple. Full-blown aromas suggest *crème de cassis*, cherry, *garrigue* and black olive. Stains the palate with deeply concentrated dark berry preserve flavors, picking up pleasingly bitter cherry pit and dark chocolate on the finish. This is remarkably complex, balanced and fresh, not to mention one of the best examples of the vintage for Vacqueyras. 92. 2005 Vacqueyras Cuvée Classique: Ruby-red. Ripe, spicy raspberry and cherry on the nose, with a subtle gamey character. Plush red berry flavors are energized by tangy minerals. Finishes with excellent lift and impressively silky tannins. 90. 2005 Vacqueyras Vieilles Vignes: Inky purple. Strikingly complex aromas of spicy red and dark berries, olive and dark chocolate. Deep cassis and blackberry flavors are framed by chewy tannins and carry through a long, sweet finish. This serious, broad-shouldered wine will repay aging. 91. (Russell Herman/World Wine Source, Berkeley Heights, NJ)