



wine

with Jeff Collerson



White
Mud House 2008
Marlborough sauvignon blanc (\$20)

A STAND-OUT among dozens of recent sav-blanc releases from NZ's Marlborough, this was a major award winner at the 2008 Sydney International Wine Competition. Mud House was founded in 1996, aiming to create vineyards in regions where various grape varieties are especially suited. There is also a rich and satisfying 2008 pinot gris, from NZ's South Island, under this label. Stockists 1800 677 443.



Red
Tyrrell's 2007
Heathcote shiraz (\$20)

SHIRAZ from Victoria's fashionably cool Heathcote climate tend to be expensive but as Tyrrell's has the area's largest vineyard holdings, their prices are modest. The '06 was a gold medal winner at the National Wine Show and the '07 is in the same class. Medium-bodied but with great style, finesse and beautifully integrated tannins. It has a long, pleasing finish. Widely available.

top drop



Red
Grant Burge 2006
Shadrach cabernet sauvignon (\$62)

IN 1999 Burge planted Corryton Park vineyard, high in SA's Eden Valley, convinced it would yield great cabernet. This is the first Shadrach dominated by Corryton Park grapes (70 per cent) and Burge believes it vindicates his faith in the area. "Corryton Park fruit is leaner, with more up-front berry flavour than you get from lower regions. It is exactly what cabernet sauvignon should be," he says. Widely available.



White
The Yard 2008
chardonnay (\$31)

FORMER Hardy's and Houghton winemaker Larry Cherubino set up this brand in 2000. A stunning chardonnay from WA's Margaret River, it is not cheap but is superior to most of our benchmark chardonnays. Dense, dry and lush with a mineral-infused nose, it is mouth-filling but not a blockbuster. Has a silky, elegant and pure palate that is balanced with good acidity. Stockists 1800 655 499.