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In Flörsheim-Dalsheim, I took the chance to visit Volker Raumland again, arguably one of the top three sparkling wine producers in all of Germany. The range he is offering at the moment is world-class and can compete with any sparkling wine on planet wine.

[Stephan Reinhardt / The Wine Advocate / May 2020]

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## About Sekthaus Raumland

Producing nothing but Sekt since 1990 and VDP member since January of this year, Volker and his wife Heide-Rose Raumland are the outstanding sparkling wine producers in Germany. The organically farmed vineyards in Rheinhessen and the neighboring Pfalz sum up to 10 hectares of vines, of which Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are 40% each, whereas the other 20% are Pinot Blanc, Pinot Meunier and Riesling. The harvest is done entirely by hand in 15-kilogram boxes. All the grapes are washed in a kind of whirlpool before the whole clusters are pressed. Only the first 65% of the potential output is used for the fermentation, which is always inoculated with cultivated yeasts. After the second fermentation in the bottle, each wine is kept for at least three years on the lees, yet many cuvées are aged much longer—in fact, up to nine or even 10 years. The style is very clear, precise and elegant, and each wine has remarkable freshness and finesse. Since autumn last year, their daughters, Marie-Luise and Katharina, have been part of the team and will continue the domain. Raumland also produces sparkling wines for many top German producers from several regions, for example Rebholz and BattenfeldSpanier.

[Stephan Reinhardt / The Wine Advocate / May 2020]



Scores (1/3)

Robert Parker  
WINE ADVOCATE



2014  
*Cuvée  
Katharina*  
BRUT NATURE



2013  
*Cuvée  
Marie-Luise*  
BRUT



NV  
*Rosé  
Prestige*  
BRUT



2010  
*Blanc de Blanc  
Prestige*  
BRUT



2011  
*Chardonnay  
Prestige*  
BRUT



## Tasting notes (1/3)

### **2014 Cuvée Katharina BRUT NATURE**

Disgorged in November 2019, the 2014 Cuvée Katharina Brut Nature is a blend of Pinot Noir and Meunier partly fermented in barriques. The 2014 opens with a clear, intense and fruity Pinot aroma intermixed with flinty notes as well as delicate vanilla and brioche aromas. Intense and full-bodied on the palate, this is an intense, rich and elegant sparkling wine with a long and complex finish. This outstanding sparkling wine can compete with any Champagne. Very expressive, seriously long and complex in its mineral nature. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2013 Cuvée Marie-Luise BRUT**

The 2013 Cuvée Marie-Luise Brut is a pure Pinot Noir that was disgorged with a dosage of 4.5 grams per liter in April 2019. The wine opens with wonderfully pure and delicate cherry and red berry fruit intertwined with very fine brioche aromas. On the palate, this is an intense, fresh and firmly structured sparkling wine with lingering fruit intensity and mineral expression. Intense yet so delicate. Tasted in March 2020.

### **Rosé Prestige BRUT**

The pale NV Rosé Prestige Brut (Disg. 11/2019) is a pure Pinot Noir that blends the vintages 2014 (60%) and 2015 (40%). Very delicate on the elegant, precise and vinous nose, this is a fresh, quite intense and fruity rosé with good freshness and grip. This is a full-bodied and vinous Pinot sparkling wine that should be cellared for another year but can be aged for several years. It has a very gastronomic character that has been dosed with two grams per liter. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2010 Chardonnay Prestige BRUT**

The 2011 Chardonnay Prestige Brut is pure, fresh and elegant on the precise and elegant, slightly flinty nose. On the palate, this is a highly finessed and charming sparkling wine with juicy fruit, great elegance and lingering salinity. Disgorged in October 2019. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2011 Chardonnay Prestige BRUT**

The 2010 Blanc de Blanc Brut is a pure Pinot Blanc whose base wine is fermented in stainless steel. Disgorged in March 2019, this opens with a pure, delicate and fruity nose intermixed with flinty and iodine aromas. Round and charmingly intense and nutty on the palate, this is a pure and elegant, fruity Pinot with a long and intense finish that is pretty rich, salty, dry and mineral. This is a powerful yet delicate sparkling wine that will definitely benefit from further bottle aging. Tasted in March 2020.

Scores (2/3)



*Triumvirat*  
*Grande Cuvée*  
BRUT

2008



2009



2010



2011





## Tasting notes (2/3)

### **2008 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée BRUT**

The 2008 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée Brut is pure on the matured, complex and iodine, complex and vinous, slightly nutty-scented bouquet. Blending 57% Pinot Noir with 23% Chardonnay and 20% Meunier, this is a round yet pure, fresh and aromatic sparkling wine with oxidation and a charmingly aromatic texture with fine tannins and a lingering saline taste. In total, 11,900 regular bottles were produced plus larger formats. This bottle was disgorged in November 2015. Tasted at the domain in March 2020.

### **2009 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée BRUT**

The 2009 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée Brut blends 60% Pinot Noir with 28% Chardonnay and 12% Meunier, all from the Bürgel grand cru. The bouquet is intensely fruity yet highly delicate and pure on the nose, with iodine notes and finest red berry and yellow-fleshed fruit aromas and brioche notes. Juicy and intense on the palate, this is a vinous, very intense and complex sparkling wine with very fine tannins and a long and substantial, very intense and vinous finish. The 2009 shows a first maturity and gets more and more complex. A great wine with food. Total production: 8,500 regular bottles plus larger formats. This bottle was disgorged in May 2017. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2010 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée BRUT**

The Pinot-dominated 2010 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée Brut is intense yet pure, bright and fresh on the concentrated and iodine-scented, dense and complex nose. Blending 70% Pinot Noir with 18% Chardonnay and 12% Pinot Noir, this is a full-bodied, intense, fresh and juicy, concentrated and refreshing sparkling wine with a long, fresh, pure and salty finish with lemon flavors. Terribly fresh and firm. Disgorged in March 2019. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2011 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée BRUT**

The 2011 Triumvirat Grande Cuvée Brut blends 50% Chardonnay with 35% Pinot Noir and 15% Meunier, all cultivated in the Bürgel "VDP. Grosse Lage." The wine opens with a very delicate and fine bouquet of yellow-fleshed fruits intermixed with very fine chalky, saline and floral notes. On the palate, this is a very delicate, refined and elegant as well as intense and sustainable sparkling wine with great expression and a long and complex finish. Great finesse and complexity and lingering salinity. A great Sekt, of which 3,500 of 6,000 bottles were disgorged in January this year. Tasted in March 2020.

***AVAILABLE AS OF SEPTEMBER 2020 (subscription)***

Scores (3/3)

Robert Parker  
WINE ADVOCATE



No picture available

2008  
*Vintage*  
**Blanc de Blancs**  
EXTRA BRUT



No picture available

2008  
*Vintage*  
**Blanc de Noirs**  
BRUT



No picture available

2008  
*Vintage*  
**Chardonnay**  
EXTRA BRUT



2008  
*Vintage*  
**MonRose**  
EXTRA BRUT



## Tasting notes (3/3)

### **2008 Vintage Blanc de Blancs EXTRA BRUT**

The 2008 Vintage Blanc de Blancs Extra Brut opens with an intense and elegant, ripe and yellow-fleshed fruit aroma on the nose and intermingles the characteristic iodine and nutty notes of the Raumland sparkling wines. Very fine and elegant on the palate, this is a pure and aromatic Sekt with a creamy texture and a long and salty finish. It has 11% alcohol but is so complex and age-worthy. Still young and so vital and almost austere. Disgorged in March 2018. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2008 Vintage Blanc de Noirs BRUT**

The 2008 Vintage Blanc de Noirs Brut opens with a bright, precise and concentrated bouquet with notes of red currants and cherries. Vinified in small barrels, this is a pure and iodine Pinot Noir from the Bürgel that comes onto the palate with amazing purity, finesse and freshness. This is a great German Sekt with great complexity and vitality. 11.5% alcohol. Disgorged in March 2018. Tasted in March 2020.

### **2008 Vintage Chardonnay EXTRA BRUT**

From Bockenheim and Dalsheim fruit, the 2008 Vintage Chardonnay Extra Brut opens with an intense bouquet of ripe Chardonnay fruit intermixed with pure chalk and iodine aromas. Very intense on the palate, this is a full-bodied, rich and firm, very mineral, vinous and sustainable Chardonnay Sekt with great complexity, freshness and finesse. Disgorged in September 2018. Tasted in March 2020. Total production: 2,465 bottles plus 100 magnums that are still on the lees, though.

### **2008 Vintage MonRose EXTRA BRUT**

The 2008 Extra Brut MonRose is a Champagne blend that was entirely aged in barriques. Pure and fresh on the refined and iodine as well as slightly oaky nose, this is a full-bodied, rich and elegant, very fine and persistently salty Sekt with great finesse and a long, intense and charmingly fruity finish. Perfectly concentrated and intense yet very fine and fresh, with sustainable iodine flavors. This is a long-distance runner that is still a bit oaky but also structured and indicates great aging potential. This bottle was disgorged in September 2018. Tasted in March 2020.