

PRESS RELEASE

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RONAN LABORDE TO SUCCEED OLIVIER BERNARD AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNION DES GRANDS CRUS DE BORDEAUX

Administrators of the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux (UGCB) met on the 13th of February to congratulate Olivier Bernard on his achievements, after six years as President of the association. The Board of Directors have appointed 39-year-old Ronan Laborde as successor, the manager and co-owner of Château Clinet in Pomerol.

The UGCB organise around sixty events throughout the year, where some 50,000 professionals and wine lovers are able to meet representatives from 134 member châteaux. In addition to their central promotional mission, the UGCB is also an ambassador of French culture, of which wine is obviously a key factor. Epitomising sharing and conviviality, these foreign events often lead to lasting friendships. En Primeur week, taking place from the 1st to the 4th of April 2019 in Bordeaux, is a perfect example of this.



Photo credits: Julien Fourcade/Taylor Yandell

Ronan Laborde was born in France in 1980. As a teenager, he was in charge of selecting and preparing bottles during numerous family receptions, where he developed a real passion for wine.

He quickly set out to purchase a vineyard, along with his father. In 1999, their search led them to purchase Château Clinet in Pomerol.

Ronan Laborde obtained a MSc in Management at the EDC Paris Business School in 2003, and was responsible for managing the estate as soon as he graduated.

Not long after, he decided to renovate part of the vineyard, inaugurating a new underground cellar and implementing environmentally friendly viticultural methods.

The estate achieved critical and commercial success, with the 2009 vintage being rewarded 100 points by the famous American wine critic Robert Parker. Always striving to push himself to the limit, he finished 3rd in the Marathon du Médoc, 66th in Paris in 2010, and 94th in the New York Marathon in 2011.

Ronan Laborde has been committed to the collective efforts of the UGCB since 2008, firstly as an administrator, then later as Vice-President, before becoming President several days ago.

"The UGCB has managed to bring together an incredible wealth of châteaux and personalities, who share the same values and practices. It is a real honour to work for such a prestigious association and its member estates".

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Uncopyrighted photos are available upon request from the Union des Grands Crus de Bordeaux :

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More information on ugcb.net