The Extra-Brut Cuvée No. 742, based on the 2014 vintage, is a gorgeous wine. In this release, the Cuvée seems especially marked by Pinot in both its flavor profile and texture. Dried pear, hazelnut, mint, chamomile and dried flowers all grace this rich, beautifully resonant Champagne from Jacquesson. Best of all, the 742 will drink well with minimal cellaring. The 700-series Champagnes are often superb; the 742 is an especially fine edition. The blend is 59% Pinot Noir (from Aÿ, Dizy and Hautvillers) and 41% Chardonnay (from Avize and Oiry). Dosage is 1.5 grams per liter.

-- Antonio Galloni

The 2008 Extra-Brut Corne Bautray, 100% Chardonnay, is a wine of real class and sophistication. Lemon confit, white pepper, chalk and floral notes all open up in the glass, but more than anything else, the Corne Bautray is a wine of total harmony. The finesse of the mousse alone is truly remarkable. Beautifully textured and vinous, with terrific freshness, the 2008 is a regal, impeccably balanced Champagne with tons of pure personality. No dosage. Disgorged: April, 2018.

-- Antonio Galloni

The 2008 Extra-Brut Avize Champ Cain is rich, ample and creamy. Graphite, dried herbs, hazelnut and tropical notes fill out the wine’s ample frame effortlessly. Textural richness and vibrancy melded together make the Champ Gain absolutely compelling. Tropical overtones add shades of nuance to a Champagne that shows all of the resonance and breadth that are such Avize signatures. Dosage is 2.5 grams per liter. Disgorged: April, 2018.

-- Antonio Galloni
The 2008 Extra-Brut Aÿ Vauzelle Terme emerges from a tiny parcel measuring just 0.30 hectares planted by Jean-Hervé Chiquet in 1980. Resonant and silky, with striking layers of nuance, the Vauzelle Terme captures a striking balance between power and translucency that is absolutely compelling. Soaring Pinot aromatics and saline overtones build into the expansive, captivating Pinot. Interestingly, when Chiquet planted this parcel, volume production was the number one objective, so the vineyard is now necessarily farmed with greater attention to managing yields. No dosage. Disgorged: April 2018.

-- Antonio Galloni