

The Art of the Vessel: Wine Glassware

Layne Randolph

October 27, 2025

Exclusive, Featured, Lifestyle, Wine & Spirits

Three Tastemakers Take Us Inside the World of Luxury Wine Glassware

In wine, the vessel matters. In the 18th century, as winemaking became more scientific and wine appreciation more refined, glassmakers in Europe began shaping vessels to complement specific wine types. The rise of crystal houses like Riedel (founded in 1756), Baccarat (founded in 1764 via a commission by Louis XV) and later the glassware house Lalique (founded in 1888) helped transform wine service into a sensory art.



Image Courtesy of Alexander Rubin

The evolution of wine glasses shows that a glass is never just a glass, not when it's shaped by the heritage of Riedel, the precision of Lalique or the drama of Baccarat. Three tastemakers—Maximilian Riedel, Jean-Charles Boisset and James Suckling—lead that evolution, each through bold collaborations that merge centuries-old craftsmanship with modern sensibility. From Baccarat's sculptural showpieces to Lalique's featherweight crystal and Riedel's high-performance forms, these visionaries are reshaping how we see—and sip—wine. We spoke with all three to explore the intersection of wine, design and the sensory experience.

Jean-Charles Boisset × Baccarat



“Wine is the ultimate expression of the senses and art of living. It requires the most refined vessels to present itself.”
Boisset says. “It’s about beauty. Energy. Expansion.”

If Riedel is a scientist, Boisset is a showman. The French American vintner, who presides over a transatlantic empire of wineries including Raymond Vineyards in Napa and Domaine de la Vougeraie in Burgundy, lives for the dramatic moment. He blends wine with fashion, fragrance, and fantasy, turning the tasting room into a stage and the wine glass into a jewel.

With Boisset, the French crystal maison brought a vintner's designs to life for the first time in its 255-year history. It created The Passion Collection, which includes a wine glass designed for white, red or rosé, a Champagne glass and wine and Champagne decanters.

Boisset's collaboration with the legendary French crystal house Baccarat—crafting glassware for royalty since 1764—is as opulent as the man himself. The Passion Collection features sculptural decanters, starburst-cut stemware and a distinctive diamond motif inspired by “the gems that grow on the vine.” His goal? To elevate the act of drinking wine.



Images Courtesy of Laurent Parrault

That spirit of boldness and glamour is infused into every facet of the collection. The Passion line blurs the boundary between utility and art, with weighty crystal that sparkles like stage lighting. Each piece features the signature diamond shape at the stem's core.

Baccarat has long symbolized prestige, rooted in the grandeur of 18th-century France. But in Boisset's hands, the crystal becomes a theatrical companion to Grand Cru Burgundy or Napa Cabernet. The Passion Decanter alone is a showstopper: dramatic in silhouette, designed to aerate with elegance and built to pour with charisma—each piece hand-blown, hand-cut and crafted from pure Baccarat crystal.

"The glass provides the perfect aromatic expression, the perfect lip opening to guide the wine and the perfect direction to hit the palate, allowing the wine to grow expansive in the mouth, bringing balance and coating your palate beautifully. Rarely does a wine glass achieve all of this."

Passion Collection by Baccarat × Jean-Charles Boisset

Available at: [Baccarat.com](https://www.baccarat.com), Raymond Vineyards (Napa Valley), [BoissetCollection.com](https://www.boissetcollection.com)

Best experienced at: The Crystal Cellar at Raymond Vineyards—a theatrical tasting lounge bathed in Baccarat brilliance

Signature piece: Starburst Passion Decanter—inspired by cosmic energy, designed for showstopping pours

<https://www.jetsetmag.com/lifestyle/wine-and-spirits/the-art-of-the-vessel-wine-glassware/>