IPO WINES

2020 Domaine Giraud Lirac "Les Sables d`Arène"

IMPORTED BY European Cellars (Eric Solomon)

COUNTRY
France

REGION
Rhône

APPELLATION
Côtes-du-Rhône

SOIL TYPE
sand

VARIETAL(S)
20% Syrah
20% Mourvèdre
60% Old Grenache

FARMING
Organic

WINEMAKER
Marie and François Giraud



ABOUT THE PRODUCER

The "domaine" saw the light of day thanks to Pierre and Mireille Giraud's zeal and two families coming together. The story begins in 1974 when Pierre and Mireille, as their parents did before them, took on 4 hectares (10 acres) of vines. Little by little the Domaine has grown through years exclusively on the appellation. In 1998, Pierre was ready to pass on his love of the vine and wine to his children. Marie and François took on the estate hand-in-hand. Under their parents' watchful eye, they devoted themselves to tending vines and winemaking. They focused their efforts on selecting parcel by parcel, doing minimal treatments, upgrading their cellar to make finer and finer wines while respecting family traditions. François tries hard to tend each parcel and variety respecting the "terroir" as much as possible, that alchemy nature provides us with, to fully express our grapes' full character. Reknowned late Rhône enologist Philippe Cambie consulted for the Domaine.

WINE NOTES

Once coming entirely from Grenache planted around 1950 in a sandy part of Lirac, the former Côtes-du-Rhône Les Sables d'Arene would be a standout Lirac if it wasn't for the fact that mono-varietal wines were not permitted according under current AOC rules. Starting with the 2018 vintage, Les Sables d'Arene is now officially a Lirac since an elderly and heirless neighbor in Lirac was so impressed with François organic farming that he has leased his old vines of Syrah and Mourvèdre to Domaine Giraud. Depending on yields Sables d'Arene is about 2/3 Grenache with the remainder equal parts Syrah and Mourvèdre. It retains its characteristic bright floral and bright cherry aromas with touches of bay laurel and peppery tannins.
This wine is produced from 60% old Grenache, (average 60 years of age) planted in combined with hints of licorice and 20% syrah and 20% mourvèdre. The palate is fresh and smooth with reafinesse andaromas of red fruit sabayon, liquorices and violets.