

COUNTRY Spain

REGION Catalonia

APPELLATION Penedés

SOIL TYPE Chalk

VARIETAL(S) 100% Xarel-lo

FARMING Organic

WINEMAKER Irene Alemany, Laurent Corrio



2021 Alemany I Corrio Principia Mathematica Blanco

IMPORTED BY IPO Wines

ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Irene Alemany and Laurent Corrio have been making wines in Penedès since 1999 after meeting in Burgundy while staging winemaking. Following their passion for winemaking, they worked for a few years in Burgundy and California until Irene's father finally convinced them to take over the family vineyard planted by Irene's grandfather, which also transmitted in her the love for wine. Since then, their name has become a benchmark in Penedès thanks to a very personal approach to understanding viticulture. The area was focused on making high-volume sparkling wine, and their Burgundian techniques were revolutionary and criticized at the time. In fact, they decided to leave the appellation (Vi de Garatge) and follow their own rules. Converting their vineyards from the typical Penedes high yields and abandoning all forms of chemical treatment and fertilisers, they follow basic organic practices. Much of the construction and equipping of their cellar was modest and homemade, including building their own tanks. Production remains small, yet as they identify further small vineyard sites their range has extended to include distinctive wines from the indigenous varietal Xarel-lo, with which they carry out extended fermentation, using indigenous yeasts. It is then left on its lees to increase richness and complexity. Their facility is very modest, a real garage. The quality of the small wine they produced is all they care about. They started making red, with a combination of old vine Carinena, and some Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot that they planted in 1999.

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WINE NOTES

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Irene Alemany and Laurent Corrio bought a "masía" farmhouse four years ago, and many things were interrupted by COVID-19. They have now planted Xarel.lo there and are in the process of moving the white wine production to the house. They continue to increase the amount of Cariñena in their reds, and they are planting more. Whites now go through malolactic. 2021 is a cooler vintage, in line with 2018, when "we had to wear a sweater to go to the vineyard," Irene Alemany said, "which is something we haven't had to do in the last few years." Total production is 25,000 bottles: the labels mention Garage Wine (vi de garatge).

91 points, "The white 2021 Principia Mathematica was produced with Xarel.lo from a 2.8-hectare vineyard planted 55 years ago and wants to show the variety and zone with no makeup. This is only 12.3% alcohol and comes through as fresh, sharp and floral, with citrus notes; it's very drinkable and reflects a cool vintage with freshness like no vintage I remember. It's pure, clean and symmetric, with a pH of 3.2 (after malolactic!). The finest Principia Mathematica ever! 8,000 bottles produced. It was bottled in April 2022." - Wine Advocate