

CLAU DE NELL



2017 CUVÉE VIOLETTE CABERNET FRANC-CABERNET SAUVIGNON ANJOU AOC

Vintage Report

The dry and mild winter of 2017 led to early budbreak. Two days of frost in April impacted yields. Spring came quickly providing for an early growing season. The hot summer allowed for ideal fruit maturation and the mild start of fall allowed for opulent acidity to be retained until harvest.

Vineyard

Soil: Silty-clay terroir, consisting of sandstone grit and red flint on tuff eau (limestone)

Surface Area: Cabernet Franc 5 hectares (12.36 acres) and Cabernet Sauvignon 1 hectare (2.47 acres)

Age of Vines: 35 – 45 years for Cabernet Franc; 60 years for Cabernet Sauvignon

Viticulture

Pruning: Guyot Mixte system of spur pruning for the Cabernet Franc and Gobelet for the Cabernet Sauvignon.

Cultivation: Covering the vine stock with soil in autumn, plowing-down in spring, tilling and allowing natural grasses to grow; biodynamic practices include infusions and plant decoctions applied to the vineyards, following the rhythms of the biodynamic calendar. DEMETER Certified 100% Biodynamic.

Harvest

Hand-picked in 12-kilogram (26-pound) boxes and sorted in the vineyard Cabernet Franc harvested October 1-5; yields were 35 hl/ha (2.5 tons/acres). Cabernet Sauvignon harvested October 5; yields were 20 hl/ha (1.4 tons/acres)

Vinification

Destemmed grapes were fermented using native yeasts; 30-day maceration without extraction; gentle cap punching; limited pump-overs; and infusion techniques at temperatures of 18 C to 25 C (64 F to 77 F). Slow and gentle pressing in a pneumatic press.

Maturing

12 months on fine lees in French oak (five-vintage old casks), aged in ancient troglodyte cellars cut into the limestone hillside on the property, followed by six months in a stainless steel vat.

Bottling

Bottled without filtration or fining on April, 30, 2019, a “flower day”

Varietal Composition

75% Cabernet Franc, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon



BIODYNAMIC



ORGANIC

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