Domaine de Saje Châteauneuf-du-Pape



Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2018

The Châteauneuf du Pape from Jérôme Mathieu is composed of roughly eighty percent grenache, all co-planted in field blends on head-pruned vines, combined with fully all twelve other permitted grape varieties for the appellation. All the varieties are harvested together and co-fermented with indigenous yeasts and then raised in ancient foudres for fourteen to sixteen months prior to bottling. The 2018 comes in at fifteen percent octane, in the style of this warm summer, but is most assuredly not overripe in personality, offering up a deep and complex nose of fruitcake, raspberries, grilled venison, woodsmoke, a fine base of soil (that will turn autumnal in due course), pepper and a lovely array of upper register spice tones. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and very classical in style and proportion, with a superb core, fine soil signature, ripe, firm tannins and a long, complex and very well-balanced finish. This carries its alcohol beautifully and shows little signs of backend heat and certainly, no jamminess. This is excellent, old school Châteauneuf du Pape in the best sense of the term. 2030-2070.

93+ pts- John Gilman, View from the Cellar, July-August 2021

Raised in concrete vats and old foudres, the 2018 feels Burgundian in style: Transparently red in its cherry fruit and spice, its notes of damp earth and fresh mushrooms conjure up a berry patch in the forest.

91 pts- Wine & Spirits Magazine, October 2021

Châteauneuf-du-Pape Marquis Anselme Mathieu 2018

Limpid ruby. Spice- and mineral accented raspberry and boysenberry flavors take on a hint of licorice and baking spices with air. Juicy and energetic on the palate, offering appealingly sweet red and blue fruit and candied lavender flavors that put on weight through the back half. Closes spicy and long, with resonating red fruit character and round, even tannins that lend subtle grip.

92 pts- Josh Raynolds, Vinous Media, August 2021

