

2006 La Peira en Damaisela Orbriers de la Peira

Rating: 90
Drink: -

The 2006 Les Obriers de la Peira smells of lightly cooked cherry, toasted nuts and marjoram. Less polished and complex, but with great purity of fruit, and every bit as exuberant and refreshing as the 2007, this still retains a sense of low-toned richness, with walnut oil and chocolate that become more prominent in the finish. Certainly it will be worth following for a few years, even though intended for – and quite capable of – being enjoyed right away.

La Peira en Damaisela is the property of London-based composer Robert Dugan, located between Jonquieres and Aniane, on two adjacent parcels of no known previous distinction, but to which in 2004 instinct led him either with remarkable prescience or remarkable luck. The deep alluvial fan that is the basis for this site is only barely tilted, as it might be in St. Helena or Rutherford, St.-Estephe or Pomerol ... and these comparisons will not seem inapt once you experience the quality of La Peira's wines. Claude Gros (of Chateau de Negly fame) consults here, expense seems not to have been spared on a new facility (with, of course, lots of new barrels), and Bordeaux-trained Jeremie Depierre is the hands-on (or, as I am sure he and Dugan would prefer me to put it "hands-off") winemaker. New barrels of

- David Schildknecht (June, 2009)

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