

**2008 La Peira en Damaisela  
Coteaux du Languedoc Terrasses  
du Larzac Las Flors de la Peira**

Around one half Grenache, one third Syrah, and the rest Mourvedre, the 2008 Coteaux du Languedoc Terrasses du Larzac Las Flors de la Peira displays less charm let alone the seductive florality of its 2009 counterpart, but offers a compelling combination of palpable density, tension, and grip. Black pepper, licorice, iodine, salt, and iron filings mingle with ripe yet tart blackberry and cassis. The finish here seems to brood, but what a huge, dark cloud it spreads across the palate! I have remarked before on the Pomerol-like aspects of this cuvee – an observation that regisseur Jeremie Depierre seconded – but if one is to stick with that simile in this vintage, it could only be Lafleur rather than a Merlot-dominated Chateaux that one had in mind. I suspect this will need 2-3 years to significantly make good on its potential and ought to be worth following for 6-8. (Tasted alongside, the bottled 2007 displays greater density and more obvious tannin but no less complexity, vibrancy, or sheer sap and refreshment than I found when I reviewed it from barrel for issue 183.)

Rob Dougan and his winemaker Jeremie Depierre demonstrated this April that La Peira en Damaisela – for much more about which, consult the account in my issue 18...

- David Schildknecht (August, 2011)