

2006 La Peira en Damaisela Deusyls de la Peira

Rating: 92

Drink: -

While reflecting an annual production of only 1,000 bottles, the 2006 Deusyls de la Peira – a blend of Viognier with one-third Roussane – demonstrates that the striking potential of this site and its talented team extends to white wine. Pungent notes of lime, tangerine, pepper, narcissus, and acacia tweak the nose. On the palate, the juxtaposition of creamy richness of texture with zesty pungency and fresh citrus is striking and readily enticing of the next sip. The oily and pit-fruited aspects of Viognier are absent here but (at least for this taster!) not missed. While this spent nearly two years feeding from its lees in barrel, they were not stirred. Lift, refinement, and clarity mark a finish that is like very subtly-bitter liquid floral perfume. Is it at its best now? Who can know? But it is significantly more impressive than when tasted a year ago and before bottling.

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

- David Schildknecht (June, 2009)

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