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LA PETITE SOEUR

Anjou, Loire

Originally from Brittany, Adrien de Mello travelled the world following a love of wine before settling in Anjou in 2015. He now farms four hectares of vineyards planted over schist in and around the village of Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné.

The vines have been farmed organically for some time, but since settling here Adrien has taken things to the next level and in just a few years has gained both organic and biodynamic certification. He ploughs by horse and is passionate about foraging wild plants such as nettle, comfrey, yarrow and buckthorn to prepare teas to be used in the vineyards. His care and attention to detail here produce wines with great clarity and a startling purity of fruit.

In the cellar Adrien's work is defined by a lightness of touch that is characterised by gentle extractions to reveal just enough detail and nuance from the grapes, and a focus on expressing the perfume of each variety whilst harnessing the incredible character that schist brings. Fresh, fragrant and invigorating, Adrien's wines offer a highly original expression of the part of Anjou he calls home.

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PLASMA 2024

A blend of roughly equal parts of Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc from fifty five year old vines planted over schist, the former pressed directly, whilst the latter infused in the juice as whole bunches for eleven days. The wine was pressed to vats and bottled young, resulting in a light, bright, vibrant rosé that is heady with tropical fruits and flowers and just screams sunshine.