

TUTTO

ROBINOT

Jasnières, Loire



For lovers of real wine, the name Jean-Pierre Robinot and his story are legendary. He fell in love with wine at a young age, moved to Paris, met some of the natural wine movement's true pioneers and subsequently opened one of the first bars dedicated to such wines in the city, L'Ange Vin and founded France's premier journal on the topic, 'Le Rouge et le Blanc'. It was only a matter of time before he could not resist the urge to join the vignerons he so loved and in the early two thousands he left Paris and moved with his wife Noella back to the village where he grew up in the very north of the Loire to do just that.

The Robinots farm a total of seven hectares of land across two appellations, Jasnières and the Coteaux-du-Loir. The vines are planted over a mix of red clay, limestone and silex and are tended organically, with the majority of treatments coming in the form of infusions of wild plants such as nettles and ferns. Parcels are harvested by hand individually and fermentations take place in the labyrinth of ancient limestone caves beneath the vines. They go slow and steady and can often last months, even years.

The wines rest on their lees in the barrels that line the dark, damp cellars here for as long as they need. We have tasted some that have been waiting for over ten years. However, there is method in the madness. Jean-Pierre is a master of *élevage* and by the time each wine is bottled with nothing added or taken away, it has attained an energy, poise and vitality that is hard to find elsewhere. With daughter Juliette showing a keen interest in the life of a *vigneronne*, the future is bright for the Robinots.

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SUPER JULIETTE

2009