



## DOMAINE GÉRARD FIOU SANCERRE ROUGE 2018



“When looking for a Sancerre to add to our portfolio, we picked the village first” this statement can seem surprising but with 14 villages you have a lot of different expression of Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir.

Florent Bourgeois’ tiny estate of 24 acres is based in Saint-Satur, the closest village of the appellation to the Loire River. Also called the port of Sancerre it benefits from the microclimate of the river providing optimum ripeness potential. The 4 only growers based in this single south-facing hillside are blessed with a unique Terroir rich in Flint. Long considered too hard to grow vines, this tiny portion of the Terroir of Sancerre (12%) is now a fascination for most of the growers, who, when they have the chance to own a parcel on this soil, don’t hesitate to bottle it separately to make their top cuvée.

The thick stony layer on top of the vine has the ability to store the heat of the day and deliver it back throughout the night, this element, combined with the microclimate from the river, provide the very best maturity potential. If you want to know what minerality the flint bring to the wine just do what the prehistorical folks were doing, hit two rocks against each other and you’ll smell this characteristic gun powder smell that the wine deliver.

SOIL TYPE \_\_\_\_\_

Flint and clay. Southwest exposure.

VARIETAL \_\_\_\_\_

100 % Pinot Noir. Over 45 years old vines.

CULTURE \_\_\_\_\_

Low yielding of 35hl/ha to ensure an optimum maturity. Organic farming of the vines with traditional ploughing of the soil. Green harvest and manual leaf thinning. Harvest by hand in small 22lb cases. Sorting table to pick only the ripest grapes.

VINIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

After a cold maceration of a week the fermentation happens in wooden vat during 14 days at low temperature. Once the malolactic fermentation is done the wine is sent in old French oak barrels for an ageing of 6 months.

TASTING NOTES \_\_\_\_\_

This medium body Pinot Noir display some ripe dark cherry fruits nicely paired with some elegant floral notes. The tannins are soft but bring an elegant backbone to this wine while carrying a smoky minerality throughout the experience.

From the same Winery :

*Just Fiou IGP Val de Loire 2019*

*Sancerre Blanc 2019 (WE90)*

*“Le Grand Roc” Sancerre Blanc 2016 (WE93)*

