

2016 Eric Et Joel Durand Cornas Premices

Moving to the Cornas trio, the 2016 Cornas Premices is a terrific wine for readers who want to understand the vintage in Cornas as well as this estate. Classic notes of black fruits, charred meats, violets, and pepper all emerge from this medium-bodied, supple, balanced Cornas that has light tannins and an already approachable, charming, layered style. Drink it over the coming decade.

Consistently brilliant wines emerge from Domaine Durand, which is run with incredible talent and passion by Eric and Joël Durand. Located in the tiny village of Châteaubourg, they pull from roughly 22 hectares of vines, 8.5 hectares in Saint Joseph, 9.5 hectares in Cornas and tiny amounts in Saint-Péray and Vin de Pays. The brothers took over the estate in 1991, and while the winemaking is relatively modern, these are classic, pure, beautifully made wines that speak clearly to their region and terroir.

- Jeb Dunnuck (12/20/2018)

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