

2018 Emmanuel Darnaud Crozes-Hermitage Au Fil Du Temps

The flagship, the 2018 Crozes-Hermitage Au Fil Du Temps is a parcel selection from vines around Saviaux (this is near La Roche-de-Glun) and will spend 18 months (which is slightly longer than the other cuvées) in a mix of demi-muids and larger barrels. Deep purple-colored with a powerful bouquet of crème de cassis, spiced blackberries, cured meats, and pepper, this beauty hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a rounded, sexy texture, ripe tannins, and a great finish. It has subtle background oak, but that should be absorbed with just 2-3 years of bottle age, and it will keep for a decade. This is a beautiful 2018 in the making.

The young Emanuel Darnaud is unquestionably one of the most talented winemakers in Crozes Hermitage. I'd call him a rising superstar, but I think he's already there.

- Jeb Dunnuck (12/12/2019)

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