



SIGNATURE RED WINE CLUB JUNE 2020

This month we're including a brand-new Spanish winery to the Maritime portfolio as well as the newly released 2017 vintage of a Maritime favorite.

Virgen del Galir is located in the Valdeorras DO in Northern Spain and they make fantastic wines from Godello and Mencía grapes. These grapes find a home in the cooler (although steadily warming) north where freshness and vivacity reign supreme in terms of regional style. Valdeorras, located just above Portugal is an often-overlooked wine growing region due to its small size and production of grapes that are just now finding attention in the US, but because of this, Godello in particular can be found at weekday-wine prices but can taste like \$50. James Sucking has a great little article on Godello featuring the Maruxa and we've posted it on our website so you can check it out.

The 2017 "Ruit Hora" is a proprietary wine from Azienda Agricola Ghiomo. We reached out to Giussepino, winemaker and self-described "Farmer in Guarene" and here is how he described the wine to us.

"This wine was originally a bet between my father and myself, actually myself and the beautiful and generous hill of Guarene. I choose the rows of the vines (85% Barbera and 15% Nebbiolo) that are rich in history and part of the ancient Piedmontese wine making culture and also had the best exposure to the sun; I then drastically thinned out each vine leaving about 2 bunches on each vine. As this wine was meant to be different from any previous wine, we chose to make it with the best barriques only. "Ruit-Hora" is only produced in excellent vintages and this is why all bottles are numbered.

The feelings, when tasting this wine for the very first time, brought me back to my youth, as the deconsecrated church of St. Michael was a meeting point for exchanging views and future hopes. The label symbolizes the sundial that can be seen at the front of the sacred church of St. Michael. The wine carries the same name that is inscribed on this sundial: "Ruit-Hora". As a matter of fact, a part of the sales of Ruit-Hora will be donated to the restoration of the sundial.

The "Ruit Hora", with deliberately complex structure, combines the great generosity of the Barbera wine with the elegance of the Nebbiolo. I recommend uncorking it a few hours before serving in order to fully appreciate its qualities. This wine is to show my immense gratitude to my father for transmitting to me the love for the soil and for making me improve myself day by day. To all the people who will drink this wine I wish serenity and friendship, also remembering the person who created it." - Giussepino

Virgen del Galir "Maruxa" Mencía 2018

The Virgen del Galir winery was founded in 2002 in a valley of the Galir river, in Éntoma, a small village in Orense, Galicia, Northern Spain. The "Camino de Santiago" crosses through this village in the Valdeorras DO, and this semi-forgotten region has extraordinary vineyards. Virgen del Galir owns 20 hectares of vineyards on practically as many plots, on a valley of the Galir river with an altitude over 600m. The ground is made up almost entirely of decomposed schist on terraces. Maruxa, or Mary in English, is a Great Galician Name. She was the winery founders' mother.

Variety: Mencía

Tasting notes: This wine has a brilliant clean red cherry color. Explosion of aromas on the nose, intense fresh red fruit flavors, mineral and earthy. In the mouth the wine is broad and fresh with a good acidity.



The estate, which was first established in the early 1800's, takes its name from the Ghiomo farmhouse, formerly a monastery, in Guarene, in the heart of the Roero area just 2 miles from Alba, home to world famous wines. They take particular pride in the way wine is so deep-rooted in our long-standing country traditions, including farming organically.

Varieties: Barbera: 85%, Nebbiolo: 15%

Tasting notes: A truly structured 2017 vintage, the daughter of a hot year that manages to bring out the best in Barbera by lowering its acidity. Powerful with very ripe fruits and sensations of menthol and undergrowth! 15% of Nebbiolo grapes gives this wine tannins and elegance. A great vintage for this wine.

Ghiomo "Ruit Hora" 2017

