

## SKJ Domaines J - 2020

Winemaker: Max Julliot

AOC: Moulis-en-Médoc

Vintage: 2021

Vol: 13.5 %

RS: 0 q/L

S02: 59 mg/L

Total Production: 450 bottles

Grapes: 62% Cabernet, 38% Merlot

Soils: Sand, Gravel, Clay, Limestone

Vegan: Yes

Allergens: None

Closure: Cork + Wax

Drinking Window: 5 - 15 years

**Ethos:** Certified Organic

Producer: Husband and wife, Barbara and Max Julliot, have just taken over a small parcel of vines in Moulis with 2020 being their first vintage. Max has been working at top wineries around the world his whole life and came back to Bordeaux, the place of his upbringing to start a family.

On the side Max had an organic and biodynamic conversion consultancy firm, when a small parcel of old-vine Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon came available to rent from 2021. His only condition was that he could do a half vintage in 2020 to test the waters, soils and vines and I have managed to secure 120 of the 450 bottles produced of their very first vintage. They are working out of a borrowed barn, so whilst I'd avoid the word "garagiste", he's one to look out for as he is rapidly gaining reputation for making wines with stylistic individuality.

Viticulture and Vinification: Manual harvest, Cold. maceration in amphora, Natural yeast ferment. Foot treading and punchdown. 4-week fermentation. Blended with press juice. Full malolactic conversion in barrels. 12 months in new barrels with medium toast. Addition of sulphites at bottling only.

Tasting: Don't cut the wax, just go straight through it with your corkscrew, pull the cork out halfway over a bin or board. then brush off excess wax from around the cork before pulling it out all the way. Very intense garnet colour. This wine starts guite tight on the nose and palette, but will open up with a good hour in a decanter. Intense nose of ripe black fruit, spice, vanilla. Ample mouth with powerful but supple tannins. Aromatic of blackberry and plum, bell pepper, menthol, dried spices. long graphite finish.

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