

DOMAINE DES FONDS

Fleurie and Saint Amour

Domaine des Fonds in Fleurie was created in 2010 by André Berrod and his son Florent. Previously, André was the co-owner and winemaker at the renowned Domaine Berrod. The domaine owns 10 hectares of vines in Fleurie and 2.5 hectares in Saint Amour. Their Fleurie vines average 40 years of age and are planted on south-west exposed slopes; the oldest parcels in Fleurie are 80—100 years old. The Fleurie soils are granitic, sandy and stony and in Saint-Amour the soil is a mix of schist and clay. Berrod cultivates his vineyards sustainably and plants grass between the rows to maintain the health of the soils and prevent erosion. The Fleurie and Saint Amour are vinified in the same way; the unique personality of each wine comes from the terroir. Berrod harvests by hand and does a first selection in the vineyard and a second on a vibrating sorting table at the winery. 80% of the fruit is de-stemmed and placed in concrete tanks which permit a subtle micro-oxygenation. Fermentation begins with two, 30 minute pumping-over operations: one in the morning and one in the evening for the first 4 days to attain maximum extraction. They vinify in the Burgundian or, rather, the Berrod style. Berrod then gives the wines 14 days of maceration (in a ripe vintage like 2018) before pressing. The malolactic fermentation follows naturally after the alcoholic phase, as the wine develops over 12 months in concrete tanks. Berrod racks the young wine twice to aerate it and remove solids, which allows him to not fine and only lightly filter before bottling.



This is the first importation of Domaine des Fonds and the long-awaited return of Berrod Cru Beaujolais to the US market. Both 2015 Fonds wines were acclaimed with 90 scores by Josh Reynolds in Vinous.

Top photos: old Fleurie vines in hand tilled soil; Florent and Andre Berrod.

Bottom photos: 2018 hand harvest by the Berrod team under ideal conditions on September 17, 2018.

