



## FAILLA



THE LOVE OF WINE STARTED FOR DARREN MANY YEARS AGO, BEGINNING WITH THE ADMIRATION FOR THE FEELINGS HE WOULD GET DURING FAMILY GATHERINGS. BORN AND RAISED IN NORTHERN NEW JERSEY ALWAYS A PART OF OCCASIONS WHERE THE WHOLE FAMILY WOULD GET TOGETHER - BOTH IRISH AND ITALIAN. ONE THING ALWAYS STOOD OUT AS A GLUE FOR THE FAMILY BOND, FOOD AND WINE. AFTER GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, DARREN MOVED “AS FAR AWAY” FROM NEW JERSEY – ATTENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA. HE SPENT HIS TIME IN MISSOULA FISHING, HIKING AND STUDYING, AS WELL AS A YEAR ABROAD IN ITALY. EVEN AS A PHAT FARM WEARING, 90’S R&B LISTENING JERSEY BOY, DARREN HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING MANY FRIENDS THAT HAD SIMILAR INTERESTS IN THE CULTURE OF FOOD AND WINE.

AFTER COLLEGE DARREN SPENT MUCH TIME TRAVELING AND TAKING CARE OF FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES BACK IN NEW JERSEY. DURING HIS SPARE TIME HE FOCUSED ON STUDYING AND COLLECTING WINE, AS WELL VISITING FRIENDS THAT WERE COOKING IN ICONIC KITCHENS OF NEW YORK CITY. IN 2008, DARREN QUIT HIS FULL TIME BANKING CAREER TO HELP A DEAR FRIEND FROM COLLEGE AT RED HOOK WINERY IN PURSUING “SERIOUS ENOLOGY IN BROOKLYN.” DURING THE FIRST 6 VINTAGES AT THE WINERY HE WORKED HIS WAY FROM CELLAR RAT, TO ASSISTANT WINEMAKER EVENTUALLY BECOMING GENERAL MANAGER. HE MADE WINE ALONGSIDE CHRISTOPHER NICOLSON AS WELL AS HIS MENTORS ABRAHAM SCHOENER AND ROBERT FOLEY - LEARNING A GREAT DEAL FROM THEIR INDIVIDUAL STYLES IN WINEMAKING. AFTER LEAVING RED HOOK IN 2014 DARREN FULFILLED HIS REALITY TO MAKE WINE ON TWO COASTS, HELPING WINEMAKER FRIENDS IN CALIFORNIA. DARREN JOINED THE FAILLA TEAM IN 2015, AND SPENDS HIS TIME IN BROOKLYN FOCUSING ON SPREADING THE GOSPEL OF FAILLA AND ITS HONEST WINES.

DARREN PALACE

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