ABRAMORAMA

Presents

LIVING WINE

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JULY 15, 2022

Produced and Directed by Lori Miller

Featuring winemakers Megan Bell of Margins Wine, Gideon Beinstock & Saron Rice of Clos Saron, & Darek Trowbridge of Old World Winery as well as experts, Elizabeth Candelario (Mad Agriculture) and Dr. Timothy LaSalle (Center for Regenerative Agriculture)
The film follows the journeys of natural winemakers in Northern California during the largest wildfire season on record. Equal parts farmer, winemaker and artist, they stay true to their ideals of creating exceptional wines made through innovative sustainable and regenerative farming and without chemical additives. Eschewing the industrial agricultural practices of the corporate wine industry – our winemakers are healing the very environment they are surviving, i.e., a changing climate marked by rising temperatures, shorter growing seasons, and more frequent and virulent wildfires.

A wine novice, Lori Miller was inspired to make this film when she tasted natural wine for the first time and discovered the fun and adventurous taste. Something that tasted much more akin to the environment in which it was grown, a style of wine making that will cause variety from bottle to bottle. Soon after, when introduced to Darek Trowbridge, she learned how these innovative natural winemakers are taking a different approach to the art and science of winemaking.

Meet the Winemakers
Considered one of the masters and early natural winemakers in California, Gideon Beinstock’s wines have built a reputation and following over the years, and inspired many young winemakers. Beinstock founded Clos Saron, a small vineyard/winery in the Sierra Foothills of California, specializing in naturally grown and made wines: Pinot Noir, Syrah, and "non traditional" blends, in 1999.

Megan Bell’s company, Margins Wine in the Santa Cruz Mountains, produces low-intervention wines using grapes from underrepresented regions, vineyards, and varietals. Margins is part of the growing movement in California to make wines from vineyards farmed organically or in organic conversion using minimal additives during the winemaking process, thereby showcasing the vineyards the grapes came from.

Pastoral winemaker and proprietor, Darek Trowbridge, has 20+ years of hands-on experience in the art and science of vineyard management, grape production, and natural winemaking. His passion is inviting nature into his winemaking. His processes are simple and direct, and eliminates the need for any manufactured (man-made) chemicals. This process involves effort and shepherding but not manipulation. One of the region’s leading natural wine producers, Old World Winery is a small, family owned and operated winery. Using grapes from his 100-year-old, sustainable, and organic vineyards, Darek creates “natural wines” that reflect his family history and the traditional winemaking (old world) practices in Sonoma County.

RT: 85 Minutes

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