DIAPOROS 2011

Name: DIAPOROS 2011
Type: Dry red
Category: PGI Imathia
Origin: Block #5 of the Yianakohori vineyard in the Kir-Yianni Estate (Ktima), Naoussa, Greece
Varieties: Xinomavro 93%, Syrah 7%
Cellaring: 22 months in 225-lit oak casks and 6 months further ageing in bottles
Aging potential: 10-15 years
Character: Fruity and spicy, robust and harmonious. A perfect match for rich dishes based on veal and game or with truffle flavoured matured cheeses
Packaging: 750 ml, 1500 ml, 3000 ml, 6000 ml

Vineyard
The Yianakohori Vineyard has an overall southeast exposure at an altitude of 280-330 m. The Estate is divided into a mosaic of 33 vineyard blocks of different microclimate with varying exposure, orientation, slope, soil type, rootstock, vine density and age. Almost all exposures and soil types are encountered within the Estate demanding tailor-made viticultural practices for each vineyard block. Rainfall is abundant during the winter months, but summers are so dry that regulated drip irrigation is applied to prevent water stress. Vine density ranges from 3,500 to 4,000 per hectare and the average crop yield is maintained below 2.5 kg per vine. About 5% of the estate is planted with various rare indigenous and international varieties for experimental purposes. The grapes for Diaporos are sourced from the “heart” of Block #5 of the Yianakohori Vineyard, just over a small lake, a Kir-Yianni landmark. The slope of Block #5 has an inclination of 20%, the soil is loam clay with a very high pH, suitable for the production of full bodied Xinomavro. The average crop yield in this block does not exceed 650 kg/ha. Grape bunches are always loose, with very small berries and quite often, like in 2005, with a complete lack of seeds.

Vinification
After a seven–day pre-fermentation cold soak at 8-10°C, the must undergoes a 10-15 day fermentation at controlled temperatures in open tanks with automatic pigeage devices. Fermentation and post-fermentation temperatures lie between 23-26°C. This process aims at stabilizing the color of Xinomavro and at softening its tannins. All of the wine finishes off its malolactic fermentation in new French barrels, which offer micro-oxygenation conditions, while frequent batonnage is applied. New French oak is used throughout the whole aging process.

Technical analysis
Alcoholic volume: 14.3 %
Total acidity: 6.5 g/lit
Active acidity (pH): 3.25
Residual sugar: 3.0 g/lit

Winemaker notes
Deep red color, excellent volume, robust structure, and concentrated aromas of red fruits, violet and vanilla from the new French oak compose a wine that showcases the great potential of block #5 of the Yianakohori vineyard. What makes however the 2011 Diaporos special is the unique expression of Xinomavro that this wine offers, a result of one of the best years that we had for a long time. As always, aging will round up its acidity and reveal its increasingly rich character. A perfect match for rich dishes based on veal and game or with truffle flavored matured cheeses.