



BORDEAUX 2018 : ST EMILION GRAND CRU CLASSÉ

Château de Pressac 2018 : As is always (I think) the case, this has a complex assemblage, featuring not only the usual suspects with 74% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc and 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, it also includes a splash of Carmenère, not commonly seen in the blends from top estates, as well as Malbec (a variety also known as Noir de Pressac, and intimately associated with the history of the estate). The vineyards are located on the very edges of the plateau, east of St Emilion, where the style at a number of estates tends to be dark and succulent, and this 2018 seems to be following the script. The nose is all plums, olives, currants and salted dark chocolate, while the palate follows on in the same savoury style, with a fresh lift of violets, lavender and sage. Ripe tannins and a sense of freshness complete the picture. A fine example of the eastern plateau style, emboldened by its rich and fine-gained tannins. Hats off to proprietor Jean-François Quenin. **94/100**