

## CHAMPAGNE PAUL LAUNOIS

### CÓNTRASTE BLANC DE NOIRS MV

#### TASTING NOTES

This very rare “extra brut” cuvee comes from 100% Pinot Meunier grown on hillside slopes in the Vallée de l’Ardre. Viticulture in this area dates back to the fifth century and has always been renowned for Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier. The tiny vineyard owned by the Launois family for several generations is less than one hectare total in size. The base wine for this inaugural bottling of Cóntraste is comprised entirely from 2019 vintage. The wines are fermented in a combination of stainless steel and used barrels and undergo complete malolactic fermentation before assemblage and bottling. Resting for two years on the lees provides for a beautifully rich texture before riddling takes place over a 3–4-week period prior to disgorgement.

The nose is high-toned and powerful with botanicals and white flowers, leading into an abundant palate that expresses tart yellow fruit and finishes with a lingering salinity that exudes precision and purity.

VINTNERS	Julien & Sarah Launois
WINEMAKER	Julien Launois
VARIETAL	100% Pinot Meunier
APPELLATION	Champagne / Vallée l’Ardre
PRODUCTION	200 Cases
DOSAGE	3 g/l

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#### BACKGROUND

Three generations of the Launois family have remained faithful stewards of 6.5 hectares of Chardonnay vines in the Grand Cru village of Le Mesnil-sur-Oger, in the heart of the Cote de Blancs region of Champagne. The husband and wife team of Julien and Sarah craft these wines by hand as they raise their young son Paul to one day carry on the family legacy.

Traditionally offering their grapes to the village cooperative, In a great turning point of the family story, Julien and Sarah Launois decided to become producers as well as growers. Their handmade cuveés are as delightful as they are rare. They believe that Champagne is a product of luxury and quality, but also a vector of contacts and openness to the world. Anxious to keep this spirit, they will welcome you to the property to share with you their love of incredible wine. This is one place you truly must visit.

