

Colata

Vigneron: Colata
Location: Sicily
Size of Domaine: N/A
Terroir: Sandy-Clay Soils
Viticulture: Organic

Colata is a collaboration with our friend, the illustrator Gaurab Thakali. A triptych: one artwork of Mount Etna mid-eruption, split across three bottles. Colata is Italian for lava flow, picking up where the artwork leaves off. Three wines you can open without ceremony, farmed and made properly, offering the kind of value that is getting harder to find anywhere.

Colata lives in the far west of the island, with fruit from organically farmed vineyards on the coast at Marsala and up in the hills above Alcamo. Marsala is Grillo country. For generations these coastal vineyards fed the fortified wine the town gave its name to, and the same fruit is now going into dry whites with real character. Ours comes from 35 year old vines planted on sand about a kilometre from the sea, and it makes up the bulk of the Bianco.

The rest of the fruit comes from the hills above Alcamo: the Zibibbo that fills out the Bianco, and the Nero d'Avola behind both the Chiaro and the Rosso. Those vineyards sit between 400 and 600 metres above the Gulf of Castellammare, high enough that the heat never really settles and the grapes come in with their freshness intact.

Everything is picked by hand first thing in the morning, before the day warms up, into small 12kg crates, and the fruit from the hills is kept cool on the way down to the cellar. All three ferment on their own with indigenous yeasts.

Gaurab Thakali's artworks are the product of the rich inner landscape of his imagination, hued with the vibrant colours of Nepal, populated and soundtracked by the musicians he's most deeply inspired by, and informed by his encounters with a series of alluring subcultures. His distinctive work has appeared in prestigious publications such as The New York Times and The New Yorker, and his illustrations have also adorned clothing, skateboards, beer cans, record sleeves and turntables.