Forteto della Luja • Loazzolo

Forteto della Luja came to Giancarlo by way of his father, who purchased the farm from the original family in the 1970s. Forteto della Luja is more than a winery or a farm, it is an ecosystem of more than twenty unique species of floral and fauna, protected by the World Wildlife Fund. "WWF" winery... the first of its kind in Italy. Today’s protectors of Forteto is Giovanni, Giancarlo’s child who grew-up with the bright colors and humming sounds that city kids dream-of. Whether it's the power of "Le Grive," the meditation of "Pian dei Sogni," or the pure pleasure of "Piasa San Maurizio," it's obvious he has inherited his father’s obligation to mother nature. Advocates of solar power, he installed photo-voltaic panels on the cellar roof’s south side. These panels produce and feed electricity to the winery, every day of the year, the first of its kind in Piedmont. He describes their farming practice as "Biological Agriculture." Horses are their plows, wooden nests and birds are their friends, artificial sprays are their enemies, and absolutely no weed killers!

Moscato d’Asti "Piasa San Maurizio" 2019

Gianni’s great-grandfather planted the "Piasa San Maurizio" vineyard in the 1930s. We rarely hear the term "old-vine" associated with grapes destined for Moscato d’Asti, a wine that is suppose to represent youth, simplicity and easy "Sunday Funday." Mindful Moscato d’Asti?

The Piasa San Maurizio vineyard is steep, terraced rows tended by hand and sorted three times. Gianni produces this wine with a mother yeast which was born in 1958, stainless steel tank is their vessel, and they bottle the wine unfiltered. Their objective is to capture the freshest dimension of the fruit with skyline aromatics. Crunchy white peach, freshly cut vanilla bean, fizzy drips of honeydew, cantaloupe, and rosewater. Mindful Moscato will have you rethinking this low alcohol, lil' sweet fizz from Asti.