

## Leirana Luisa Lazaro



Rodri Mendez

This humble garage winery collaboration, Forjas del Salnes, came to life in 2005 when vineyard owner and winemaker Rodrigo Mendez began to revitalize a little piece of Galician history that was quickly fading. Red wine in Rías Baixas was the way of the land back in the early 1900s. In the 1970s, when surrounding farmers were uprooting their less productive, less desirable red grapes in favor of planting increasingly popular Albariño grapes, the Mendez family was planting them. It all began in the early 2000s when Rodri's mission became clear: to execute his grandfather's lifelong dream of grafting and replanting the nearly extinct, ancient coastal red vineyards in Val do Salnes and revive the nearly forgotten wines of his family's history. Rodri is intent on pursuing this shift in the Galician trend. With his winemaking and vineyard knowledge and skill rooted in the past, Rodri remains conscious of the present while having a vision for the future, and is producing some of Spain's finest Albariños and rare Galician reds.

**WHAT MAKES THIS WINE UNIQUE?:** Winemaker and lifelong viticulturist, Rodri Mendez, extracts single vineyard selections, old vines, coastal vines and red varieties in the subzone Val do Salnes. Wines are fresh with balanced acidity and generally lower in alcohol (12.5%).

**RATING HISTORY:** 2013 93WA; 2005 94D; 93+WA; 93IWC;

**GRAPE:** 100% Albarino. Vines planted from 1954-1964. Tended in sandy and granite soil at sea level

**PRODUCTION:** 166 cases (6 pack)

**LOCATION, SOIL, CLIMATE:** Sandy and Granite soil

**TASTING NOTES** Heady aromas of poached pear, dried fig, honey and smoky minerals, with a sexy floral nuance in the background. Dry, concentrated and powerful, offering an array of orchard and citrus fruit flavors that expand with air. Shows outstanding energy on the long, incisive finish, which echoes the mineral and floral notes strongly.

**ALCOHOL CONTENT:** 12.5%