



Biodynamically produced wine is gaining in importance

**The European winery association respekt-BIODYN is growing. Two renowned estates have joined the group at the beginning of this year, the Leiner winery in the German Palatinate and Sattlerhof in South Styria. Now including 25 wineries, the group is increasingly establishing itself as an inspiring force in the international wine market.**

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"We are growing in a very targeted way and always with one eye on our high quality standards and our harmonious cooperation. Sven Leiner and Willi Sattler and his sons fit in perfectly. We are pleased and proud of these valuable additions," says respekt chairman Michael Goëss-Enzenberg. The Leiner winery in the Southern Palatinate is well-known for its precise Rieslings and Burgundies from barren limestone and clay soils, and the Sattlerhof winery in Southern Styria for its impressive Sauvignon Blancs from quartz and limestone soils. Sven Leiner converted to biodynamics ten years ago, is considered a pioneer in his region, and is launching his first respekt-certified wines with the 2020 vintage. Willi Sattler and his sons Alex and Andi achieved organic certification in 2016 and are now converting to biodynamics; their first respekt-certified vintage will be the 2021. Sattlerhof has just been ranked among the 100 best wineries in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine.

respekt was founded in 2007. With the two new members, the association now has seventeen members in Austria, seven in Germany and one in South Tyrol, with the 25 members having a total vineyard area of about 850 hectares. The 630 hectares of respekt vineyards in Austria account for about one tenth of the country's total area of organic vineyards. The goal of the association is the common search for ever higher quality and more individuality in wine, and the numerous international awards for their individual wineries affirm this approach. In 2019, respekt-BIODYN was awarded the prestigious "Wine Award for Friends" by the German Feinschmecker magazine for the high quality of its wines, and its enlightened European attitude.

All winemakers with high quality aspirations and an enthusiasm for sustainable biodynamic farming are welcome to join in the exchange. The next joint appearance of respekt-BIODYN is planned at the end of May as part of the VieVinum wine trade fair at the Hofburg in Vienna.



**Leiner Winery.** The 17–hectare Leiner winery is located at the foot of the Kleine Kalmit nature reserve in the Southern Palatinate region. The Leiner family has been practicing organic viticulture there for about twenty years; the winery was founded in 1974, certified organic in 2005, and Demeter–certified in 2011. Since then, it has developed continuously over the years as a leading biodynamic winery in the region, joining the respekt–BIODYN association in 2021 and bringing their first respekt wine to market with the 2020 vintage. Sven Leiner produces a total of 80 percent white wine, including precise Rieslings, Pinot Blanc and Pinot Gris on his barren limestone and clay soils. His red wine is dominated by Pinot Noir. In 2020, Sven Leiner was nominated for Winemaker of the Year by Falstaff Germany. He currently has no sales representation in Austria.

**Sattlerhof Winery.** The biodynamic operation of their 35–hectare winery and their tireless search for improvement and perfection characterise the craft of the Sattler family of winemakers in Gamlitz, Styria. Their main single–site vineyards Kranachberg, Pfarrweingarten, Kapellenweingarten and Sernauberg are characterised by quartz and limestone, depending on the site. The low yields of their old vines on the steep slopes, the selective hand–harvesting of the grapes in small boxes, the gentle pressing and sensitive handling during vinification all result in authentic, long–lasting wines. Certified organic since 2016, Sattlerhof has been one of the best wineries in Styria for many years. Their 2021 will be the first respekt–certified vintage, until then the winery will remain a "respekt member under conversion".

**The respekt Wineries.** Paul Achs, Judith Beck, Busch, Christmann, Feiler–Artinger, Fritsch, Martin & Georg Fußer, Manincor, Gsellmann, Hajszan Neumann, Gernot & Heike Heinrich, Hirsch, Leiner, Loimer, Anita & Hans Nittnaus, Ott, Gerhard & Brigitte Pittnauer, Claus Preisinger, Sattlerhof, Ökonomierat Rebholz, Dr. Wehrheim, Weninger, Wieninger, Wittmann, and Herbert Zillinger.

**respekt–BIODYN.** The association is based in Austria, and as of this year has twenty–five members in Germany, Italy, Austria, and Hungary. It was founded in 2007 with the aim of striving together for ever higher quality and greater individuality in wine. Chairman Michael Goëss–Enzenberg of the South Tyrolean winery Manincor heads the association, with Kamptal winemaker Fred Loimer serving as his deputy. respekt–BIODYN has established itself internationally in recent years as an important driving force in biodynamic viticulture alongside Demeter and Biodyvin. respekt members cultivate an area of about 850 hectares in total.



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