Tamlyn Currin

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Languedoc and Roussillon 2020, reds M–Z and sweet wines

Ch Ste-Eulalie, La Cantilène 2017 Minervois-La Livinière

55% Syrah, 15% Grenache, 30% Carignan (30-year-old vines). Mechanical harvesting, macerated 15–20 days, 12 months in 25% new and 75% used barrels. Stewed blackberries and mushroom compost. Overripe fruit that tastes jammy but also a little singed. Some attractive black-rock-dust minerality that does a the job of balancing the extreme ripeness out, and also long acidity, so overall, although the first impression is a bit too thick and heavy, the wine pulls itself through in an admirable recovery. As a whole, it works well and finishes fresh. (TC) 14.5% Drink 2020 – 2024 16.5