

## Champagne Leclerc Briant was awarded "Brand of the Year" by La Revue du Vin de France

On Thursday January 6<sup>th</sup> 2022, La Revue du Vin de France awarded its Grands Prix, including the Personality of the Year prize to Emmanuel Macron, in recognition of his commitment to wine and its cultural, historical and economical influence.

The brand of the year, all appellations included, was awarded to Leclerc Briant, a Champagne house established in Epernay since 1872.

## A symbolic award on the eve of the 150th anniversary of the House

La Revue du Vin de France has rewarded the spectacular metamorphosis of the brand in just 10 years. Denise Dupré and Mark Nunnelly, an American couple, acquired in 2012 this house founded 150 years ago in Cumières. They appointed a strong tandem: Frédéric Zeimett, ex-Moët & Chandon and M.Chapoutier, as director and Hervé Jestin, an emblematic figure of biodynamics, as head winemaker.

The adventure began with the constitution of a beautiful set of 14 hectares of biodynamic vineyards, completed by the purchase of organic or biodynamic grapes. In the cellar, a series of vinification experiments were carried out, especially on containers (amphoraes, gold barrel, glass globes, titanium barrel) and ageing methods (the Abyss cuvée and its underwater maturation).

The objective: to transmit through the wine the resonance of the places and materials used for ageing it.



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Far from the great classics of Champagne, the house works mainly on zero dosage champagnes, including some cuvées without sulphur (including Grand Crus), and several spectacular single-vineyard cuvées. A successful bet!

"The champagne economy is based on the long term. Ten years is nothing in the life of a champagne brand! And to receive such a distinction after just ten years of effort and passion is simply magnificent." Frédéric Zeimett, Managing Director of Leclerc Briant.

For the past 12 years, each January, the RVF has been rewarding personalities from the world of wine and vineyards who have distinguished themselves during the past year.