

SILVER HEIGHTS

Press release

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SILVER HEIGHTS VINEYARD, leading the way for biodynamic viticulture and minimal-intervention winemaking in China, is now ready to launch their newest collection of Natural Wines: Jiayuan 家园. Three single-varietal cuvées have been produced created in very limited quantity (less than 3000 bottles each), using an extremely purist approach to winemaking that focuses on wild-yeast fermentation, no filtration, and minimal sulfur.

“From the early days, we have always been guided by the ancient wisdom of Jieqi (节气) solar terms, and we also used organic practices to avoid chemicals and artificial pesticide. Now since 2017, our estate fully embraces biodynamic farming. Celebrating our passion for minimal-intervention winemaking, the Jiayuan collection strives to express the raw beauty of our eco-system. By cultivating harmony with the seasons, encouraging the transformations that nature brings forth, we nurture energy and vitality throughout our vines for it to be expressed in every bottle.”

- Emma Gao

Owner and winemaker of Silver Heights Vineyard, Emma Gao has been a pioneering figure of China’s modern wine scene. Raised in Ningxia, her father taught her to appreciate the potential for the area’s unique terroir and agriculture. She studied in Bordeaux, obtaining the prestigious Diplome National d’Oenologue, and went on to visit many of the world’s top wine regions. Returning to Yinchuan in 2007, her family launched Silver Heights Vineyards, making artisanal wines that demonstrated craftsmanship, integrity and passion. They used organic viticulture principles to farm their tiny family farm, while

also partnering with additional farmers, sharing best practices. Eventually their singular attention to quality and authenticity would help bring critical acclaim to Ningxia as China’s premier wine growing region.

Gaining early positive reviews from the world’s most respected media (Jancis Robinson / Robert Parker / RVF), Emma showed that China could produce artisanal wines with balance, delicacy and longevity. Since their beginning days, Silver Heights embraced natural techniques in farming, while also following the ancient Chinese principles of Jieqi (well respected in agricultural parts of the country). After 2015, the winery was able to make their wines from 100% estate fruit, and eventually earn the Chinese Government’s Organic Certification. Moreover, since 2017, the focus has been on enhancing the ecosystem and soils of their vineyards by converting to Biodynamic Viticulture. Her estate now includes shanyang, chickens, horses and donkeys which all contribute to the nutrient-rich composts and the vineyard’s cycle of life. This holistic approach and passionate philosophy allowed her understanding of winemaking to progress using only the most delicate hand to guide the wines fermentation and evolution.

Silver Heights wines are now sold around the world, showing the elegance and finesse expected of the world’s best Chateaux. Emma Gao continues to gradually expand her production capability, while also pushing for innovation in her repertoire of wines. For over a decade, the winery has been consistently setting an example as a multigenerational family winery prioritizing sustainability and harmony with nature.



1997-2007

Father Gao Lin works in viticulture, studying the best soil sites of Ningxia, with travel to Europe for researching best practices.

2003-2004

Emma works at Chateau Calon Segur, Bordeaux.

2002

Emma receives her Diplome National d'Oenologue in Bordeaux.

2007

Silver Heights Vineyard is established, with the first wines released.



2010

Jancis Robinson awarded Silver Heights The Summit 2013 16.5 points (the highest score in China).

In 2010, Jancis visited Silver Heights writing that it is another bright light to have emerged on the modern Chinese wine scene.

2013

Silver Heights featured in "the World Atlas of Wine" representing East Helan Foothills.

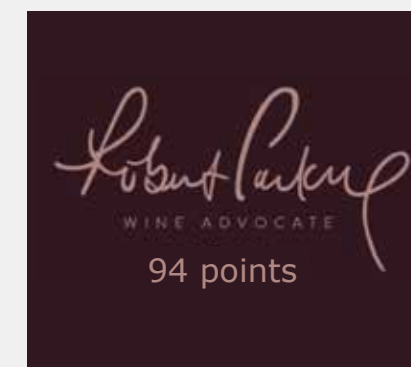
2018

On the way to Demeter certification.



2014 & 2019

Silver Heights poured for two estate dinners, first for Li Keqiang & Angela Merkel (Beijing), second for President Xi Jinping and Emanuel Macron.



2020

Robert Parker awarded Silver Heights Emma's Reserve 94 points.



2021

EU organic conversion certificate.

Robert Parker awarded Silver Heights Family Reserve Chardonnay 91 points.



2015

Best Chinese Wine - HK International Wine & Spirits Competition.

2019

The Drinks Business 2019 Top10 most influential women in China's Wine Industry.

2020

Chinese National standard organic certificate for planting and processing.



2021

93 pt JS on 1st vintage Jiayuan Pinot Noir.



Media Coverage 2010

[Wine Spectator Magazine](#)
[Jeanniecholee.com](#)
[Adega Brazil](#)

2011

[Jing Daily](#)
[Luxury Society](#)
[Aljazeera English](#)
[Jing Daily](#)

2012

[Jancis Robinson](#)
[Youtube – Davos du Vin](#)
[Wine Travel Stories](#)
[Australian Fin. Review](#)

2013

[Decanter Magazine](#)
[Global Times](#)
[Fine Wine Concierge](#)

2014

[The Flying Winemaker](#)
[Jeannie Cho Lee – Master of Wine](#)

[Wine China](#)
[The Drinks Business](#)
[Wine Explorers](#)
[Medals: Wine China](#)

2015

[New York Times](#)
[Le Figaro](#)
[Decanter Magazine](#)
[Vinous Antonio Galloni](#)
[The Tasting Book](#)
[Singapore Wine Vault](#)
[Beijing Review](#)
[Thirsty Dragon](#)
[Chinesefinewines.com](#)
[La Chine Au Present](#)

2016

[Le Monde](#)
[The Guardian](#)
[Nowness](#)
[Youtube – The Flying Winemaker](#)

[China Daily](#)
[Winesinfo.com](#)
[Ceidea.com](#)
[French People Magazine](#)
[Grape Wall of China](#)

2017

[Most Creative People of 2017](#)
[China Daily](#)
[Youtube - China Daily](#)
[South China Morning Post](#)
[Drinks Business -10 Most Influential Women in Wine](#)
[The Buyer](#)
[#Legend](#)
[China Hands Magazine](#)
[Wild Orchid News](#)
[Vinality Cision](#)
[Contention of Smell of Taste](#)

2018

[Vogue China](#)
[New China TV – Youtube](#)
[Decanter Magazine](#)
[The New Yorker](#)

[Youtube – Fous de Nous](#)
[WSET Global](#)
[Inkstone News](#)
[Caplan Japan](#)
[Gismiondionwine](#)

2019

[Bloomberg.com](#)
[Esquire Magazine](#)
[Caixin](#)
[Italian Wine Podcast](#)
[Imbibe.com](#)
[French.xinhua.net](#)
[Helioswinemedia.com](#)
[World Wine Women](#)
[Culinary Backstreets](#)

2020

[Winefolly](#)
[James Suckling](#)
[The Washington Post](#)
[DE TIJD](#)
[Vino Joy News](#)

[Youtube - The China Institute](#)
[Shanghai Daily](#)
[The World of Chinese Wine](#)
[The Wine Economist](#)
[Studiokom Unconventional](#)

[Chinese Terroir](#)
[Cultures of Booze](#)

2021

[James Suckling](#) [Evening Standard](#)
[James Suckling](#) [Thedrinksbusiness](#)
[Grandes Excolhas](#) [China Daily](#)
[China Daily](#) [Vino Joy News](#)
[Zeit Magazin](#) [WINWSA](#)
[De Telegraaf](#) [The Peak Magazine](#)
[IAN D'Agata](#) [Terrior Sense](#)
[NBC News Now](#)

2022

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