

# Union Sacré | Chardonnay “La Marianne”

## Central Coast AVA



**The Story:** Xavier Arnaudin is a name you will know, and I have to thank Andrew Jones from Field Recordings for introducing me. I told Andrew I wanted to find someone special in California. Someone who was making amazing wines that no one knew about and that I would love, and also a person that would be great to work with. He knew exactly the person I was looking for. As a young man Xavier trained to be a boxer in France and then began to train to work the vineyards and harvest in 1997 with Alain Voge. During this time, he also worked as a sommelier and earned his WSET Diploma. Once he had several harvests and his diploma under his belt, he completed his enology studies and moved to the US. Xavier brings an old- world approach to his vineyard management, cellar, and winemaking. He also brings a willingness to be different and the confidence to let his fruit and his wines speak for themselves. He is making very small amounts of very striking wines. Xavier was making wines, mostly, from Rhone/Burgundy grapes, both here and in France. Tiny Production!!

**Vineyard:** Gold Coast Vineyard located on the Sonoma Coast overlooking the San Pablo Bay, and Jespersen Vineyard in the hills of northwest Edna Valley only 4 miles from the Pacific Ocean.

**Vinification:** The grapes were pressed as soon as possible after reaching the winery and naturally fermented in barrel.

**Ageing:** 15 months in 60% new French Oak.

**Everything else you want to know about this wine:** Before she was the figurehead of the French Republic, symbol of Reason, and model for the Statue of Liberty, la Marianne was an anonymous peasant woman working for the Revolution. She captured the imagination of artists with her regal presence and strength. Although she was just like every other woman, there was an intangible magic about her.

**Varietal:** 100% Chardonnay  
**Region:** Central Coast, CA  
**Winemaker:** Xavier Arnaudin  
**Vines Age:** Variable  
**Production:** 480 cases  
**Farming:** Traditional  
**Soil:** Dark organic clay topsoil and sandy subsoil, marine

*Le Storie*  
Wines