

# — ARTIST #15 —

SOMETHING IN THE WATER

LA MAISON DU WHISKY

Created in 2011, La Maison du Whisky's Artist range brings together exceptional whiskies – single casks bottled at cask strength, most of them from Scotland. Each year, visual artists – painters, illustrators, photographers, and mixed-media artists – are invited to reinvent the series' labels. For its fifteenth edition, the Artist range sets sail for Islay, in collaboration with Elixir Distillers. Founded in London in 1999 by the Singh brothers, this independent bottler has a deep connection with the Scottish island, which it celebrates through its Elements of Islay range and Port Askaig single malt. It is also on Islay's southern coast that Sukhinder Singh began building a new distillery, Portintruan, whose foundation stone was laid in 2020. Artist #15 pays tribute to the island's historic distilleries. Its title, Something in the Water - borrowed from one of Sukhinder Singh's favorite songs - hints at the island's unique magic that sets it apart in the world of Scotch whisky. Exploring a full palette of peated tones, the collection showcases the work of Radhika Surana, an artist from northern India. Her indigo-dyed textile works particularly moved us: like dreamlike maps, her meticulous embroidery traces imaginary journeys across the rugged landscape of Islay.

## CAOL ILA 1984 - AGED 40 YEARS

### PRODUCTION



Distillation	1984
Bottling	2025
Cask Number	8484006286
Age	40 years old
Cask Type	Refill Hogshead
ABV	51,3 %
Number of bottles	99

The sixth and last stop in the 15th edition of the Artist range, dedicated to Islay's single malts, this venerable 40 year old casts its anchor on the outskirts of Port Askaig, the village home to the Caol Ila distillery, whose name is Gaelic for "sound of Islay". After being completely demolished in 1972, save for its stills, Caol Ila reopened in 1974. Equipped with an impressive stillhouse comprising three 20,000-litre wash stills and three 14,000-litre spirit stills, it is currently the largest distillery on the island. Fully developed, this bottling's radiant palette of flavours and aromas is incredibly complex, bright and subtle, and slowly traversed by wisps of smoke.

Meandering through relationships I -  
Radhika Surana

### TASTING NOTES

**Profile:** pulpy, rich. Smoke, pineapple, cut hay.

**Nose:** fleshy, rich. Opening on camphor, vanilla, smoke, fruit (pineapple, lemon) and herbaceous notes of cut hay and lucerne, the nose is particularly invigorating. Allowed to breathe, peat, peppermint, sea spray and smoked fish (herring) aromas fill the air, accompanied by minerals (slate) and floral notes of hyacinth.

**Palate:** full-bodied, elegant. The palate is just as delicious and complex and introduces a mineral-salt-rich and slightly oily peat. Evoking a field of barley swept up by a marine breeze, the balance is impressive. With perfect timing, an array of herbal infusions (verbena, chamomile) and a few aquatic plants (sapphire) refresh the taste buds.

**Finish:** long, concentrated. Marked by ash, menthol and salt, the finish opens on flavours of lemon and honey (acacia) as well as empyreumatic notes of soot and charcoal, all closely interwoven. On the retro-nasal olfaction, a fine layer of green liquorice gradually coats the sides of the palate as fragrances of lime, vanilla and eucalyptus evaporate into the air.

**Peat:** yes