

## **2024 National Finalists**

### **Katie Cameron**

Katie is the assistant winemaker at Ata Rangi and began her wine-career studying Viticulture and Oenology at Lincoln University followed by a master's degree based in France. Wine and travel have always been keen interests for Katie, which has led her to work vintages in California, Alto-Adige, Tuscany and Burgundy. Feeling the call back to NZ, Katie moved home and is loving life in the Wairarapa. In her spare time Katie enjoys getting outdoors and enjoying good wine with good people.

### **Nick Lamain**

It makes total sense that Nick's wine journey kicked off in Marlborough - it's where he grew up, where he calls home, and the one place he's most passionate about. After finishing university and facing uncertainty about his future, he kept returning to his passion for wine. On a whim, he moved back to Marlborough, where he became captivated by the thrill and excitement of harvest. With a new sense of direction, he set off overseas as a travelling winemaker, got a winemaking degree under his belt at Lincoln, and eventually wound back up in Marlborough. Now, as a Production Winemaker at VinLink, he's thriving and eager to get amongst the challenges of what will be his 3<sup>rd</sup> year competing in the competition!

### **Georgie Mehlhopt**

Georgia's wine journey began in Spain (2020) when she walked El Camino de Santiago, an 800km hike across some of the country's best wine regions. Taking shade under Rioja's vines sparked an idea to study at Lincoln University to be a winemaker. Georgia has since worked at wineries and vineyards across North Canterbury, Central Otago and Australia and continues to love the passion of the people. She proudly represents Greystone Wines for the second time in Young Winemaker and looks forward to the tough competition ahead. Georgia is always spotted with her trusty dog Huey, and they often hike and camp around the region together.

### **Callum Scarborough**

Callum Scarborough is a 24-year-old vineyard hand and aspiring Viticulturist/Winemaker at Felton Road. He hails from the Hunter Valley where he grew up in a wine family and has developed a love for the wine industry. He entered the wine industry at 17, being thrust into the cellar door at Scarborough Wines Co. and did his first of five cellar vintages in 2018. This first vintage was the catalytic moment that led Callum to want to study Viticulture and wine more broadly. He was fortunate to visit Aotearoa in 2021 and was invited to join Felton Road for a vineyard internship in 2022. He has been with Felton Road Wines since then, where he continues to develop his skills as Professional in the wine industry.