



MOONE • TSAI

**Wine Profile**

**Moone-Tsai 2013 Black List X**

**Tasting Notes**

In the oenophile's quest for an extraordinary wine born of a truly extraordinary vintage, it's fair to say that an "X" may well mark the spot for treasure. Swashbuckling traditions notwithstanding, we are exultant to bring you this exclamation point to the exceptional 2013 vintage... Black List X.

Our tenth Black List wine opens with a generous, nearly taunting nose of anise, tanned leather, and pipe tobacco. With its acclaimed Oakville (*To Kalon*) Cabernet backbone, the wine reveals a notable structure, replete with flavors of dark cherry, black currant, and cassis. On the palate, the Petit Verdot lends additional intriguing notes of roasted sage and fennel, while exhibiting both freshness and meatiness ...thanks to the barrel ferments. With chalky tannins lingering in the mouth, the wine is lightly muscled, and speaks expressively with both complexity and vigor.

The grapes (337-clone) that made this wine were grown in the well-drained, gravelly soils of the heralded *To Kalon* Vineyard, located on a gradual slope of the valley floor with north/south exposure in the Oakville AVA. The Petit Verdot hails from the rocky, well-drained soils of Dutch Henry Canyon in the Calistoga AVA.

**Winemaker: Philippe Melka**, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and— recently heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. "*Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.*"

**Wine Facts**

Varietal Composition:	61% Cabernet Sauvignon; 36% Petit Verdot, 3% Merlot
Vineyards:	Oakville, Calistoga
Production:	123 cases
Harvest Date:	October 16-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
Cooperage:	77% new French oak (26 months); St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	February 9, 2016
Release Date:	November 1, 2016

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