



Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2015 Howell Mountain Hillside Blend

Tasting Notes

Ruby red in the glass, the wine's nose invites attention, fragrant with aromas of dark Bing cherry and plum, with hints of vanilla, nutmeg, and coriander. Showing off its Howell Mountain DNA, the attack reveals concentrated flavors of ripe black cherry and black plum, accented by trances of pomegranate, tamarind and baking spices. Enhanced by the deft application of sweet oak, the wine's silky tannins are complemented by a pleasing minerality that in their combination, reveals a pleasing structure that is layered, balanced and bold... closing to a finish characterized by persistence and resolve. Barrel-fermented, and aged 22 months in 50% new French Oak, the wine brings to mind a comparison to *Smooth*, the memorable collaboration between legendary guitarist, Carlos Santana, and *Matchbox-Twenty's* front-man/vocalist Rob Thomas whose talents are prodigiously displayed on the Grammy-Award-winning album, *Supernatural*. Invoking the memorable refrain from this 1999 *Santana* masterpiece, our 2015 Hillside Blend may invite you to consider that...

...it's just like the ocean under the moon
Oh, it's the same as the emotion that I get from you
You got the kind of lovin' that can be so smooth...
Give me your heart, make it real or else forget about it

The grapes that made this wine were grown in an east-facing hillside Howell Mountain vineyard perched 2100 feet above the Napa Valley floor, located just outside the Rancho. The terraced vineyard is planted on an extreme slope, producing thick-skinned clusters capable of creating a wine with intensity, structure, elegance, and weight.

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.

Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	50% Merlot, 50% Cabernet
Vineyards:	Howell Mountain – IG-01, P-2
Production:	700 cases
Harvest Date:	September 11 – 15 th 2015
Cooperage:	50% new French oak - St. Martin, Baron, Ermitage
Bottle Date:	February 15, 2017
Release Date:	Scheduled for September 2018

For more information: Contact info@moonetsai.com, or via 707.265.6782
www.moonetsai.com