



MOONE + TSAI

Wine Profile

Moone-Tsai 2018 Black List XXVII

Tasting Notes

The “textbook” growing season that marked **2018** permitted winemaker Philippe Melka to craft an array of exceptional wines that bear our lionized emblem. Under these conditions, heavenly hangtime allowed the fruit to accumulate delightful flavor complexity with gradual increases in sugar to yield a crop marked by exceptional quality and quantity.

Demure at the outset, the wine’s nose beckons to reveal aromas of black fruits and delicate spice. Any further hesitation however, is cast aside at the attack, where the wine exposes a pleasingly full mouth, and softly layered mid-palate, replete with suggestive notes of blackberry cassis, and sweet oak; further accented by hints of shaved cocoa nib and baking spices. Aged 18 months in 44% new French oak, the wine’s silky tannins and medium-plus acidity combine to showcase a gorgeously balanced harmony that hums to a satisfyingly long and graceful finish. Deliciously drinkable upon release, patience will be further rewarded in the years to come. Invoking Motown’s greatest, Diane Ross and the incomparable Supremes truly reigned “supreme”, when they reminded us that:

*It ain't easy when mama said
You can't hurry love
No, you just have to wait
She said trust, give it time
No matter how long it takes...*

Much of this Cabernet Sauvignon was sourced from Caldwell Block-16 in Coombsville, an area of southeast Napa Valley where soils are characterized by a unique blend of red volcanic soils and clay. The grapes are allowed to achieve full ripeness without the pressure of heat extremes common in warmer areas, and low vigor soils throughout the vineyard create small, dense clusters. With the addition of vibrant dark fruit from our preferred vineyard sources on Pritchard Hill, the resulting wine is expressive and evocative.

Winemaker: Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and – 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:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards:	Coombsville, Pritchard Hill
Production:	220 cases
Harvest Date:	October 6 - 29 th , 2018
Cooperage:	18-months: 44% new French oak: St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 23, 2020
Release Date:	May 1, 2022

For more information: Visit www.moonetsai.com, or contact info@moonetsai.com