



**Wine Profile**  
**Moone-Tsai 2012 Black List-5**

**Tasting Notes**

This arresting (50/50) combination of cabernet franc and merlot delivers one of our more intriguing Black List wines ...in a fashion that is at once true, but also challenging to its origin... among the classic Bordeaux blends. While its nose suggests a loamy freshness and black fruit, the wine's palette opens with ripe dark cherries, black tea and earthiness, revealing a lightly chiseled muscularity. Bold, but beguiling, brawny, yet feminine; the wine breathlessly pads from its aromatic invitation... to display an unblinking attitude\* of directness and conviction. Aged 24 months in 50% new French oak, the powdery tannins and delicate oak provide the wine with noticeable length and an uplifting finish.

\*Author's note: As an analogy, consider the role of Trinity (played Carrie-Anne Moss) in the iconic film "Matrix", or Sinéad O'Connor's rendition of Prince's "Nothing Compares 2 U"

The fruit for this remarkable wine comes from specifically designated rows amidst vineyard blocks in the Soda Canyon district, and found in Pritchard Hill's red volcanic soils at the mouth of the Foss Valley, overlooking Napa Valley, with a southerly view of San Francisco Bay.

**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:	50% Cabernet Franc, 50% Merlot
Vineyards:	Pritchard Hill, Soda Canyon
Production:	50 cases
Harvest Date:	October 8, 2012
Cooperage:	50% new French oak (24 months); St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 3, 2014
Release Date:	April 27, 2015

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