



MOONE • TSAI

Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2013 Black List IX

Tasting Notes

Our Black List-IX presents an intriguing expression of what one of Coombsville's most celebrated vineyard blocks was able to produce in the banner vintage of 2013. With its gorgeously dark ripe berries basking in one of Napa Valley's longest growing seasons, Caldwell's Block-15 delivered...in keeping with its colorful farmer, the inimitable John F. Caldwell. Announcing itself with a suggestive nose of clove, leather, and subtle cigar box, the wine's flavors open teasingly with notes of black cherry, plum, dark chocolate, and hints of anise, wild raspberry and graphite. The finely grained tannins, and light acidity reveal a wine that is very approachable now, but will summon revisiting with continued aging.

NOTE: When enjoying this wine, we are reminded of a young Johnny Depp, or Winona Ryder: curious, mercurial, with touches of dark mystery, and quirkiness. Looking at their notable careers (together and apart) ...their surface and underlying talents caught our attentions early on...only to reward us with demonstrations of their remarkable depth and range at appropriate maturity. Within this, we suggest laying this wine down for not less than 12 months, and longer as patient palates will allow.

The fruit for this five barrel-production hails from hand-picked rows found within Caldwell Vineyard's fabled Block-15, whose vines have flourished in the rocky, volcanic soils of the Coombsville District for over 30 years. The clone of Cabernet grown on this vineyard is prized for its complexity and depth, and the company of wines sourced from this vineyard is noteworthy.

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

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| Varietal Composition: | 98% Cabernet Sauvignon; 2% Merlot |
| Vineyards: | Coombsville, Soda Canyon |
| Production: | 125 cases |
| Harvest Date: | October 22 nd , 2013 |
| Cooperage: | 89% new French oak (27 months); St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud |
| Bottle Date: | February 9, 2016 |
| Release Date: | September 1, 2016 |

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