

Tasting Notes

Deeply ruby red in hue, the nose of this expressive proprietary blend of Cabernet and Petit Verdot entices with beguiling aromas of black plum, cherry, cranberry and sandalwood. With the wine's cabernet backbone hailing from the cooler Soda Canyon district, the palate is greeted with dense, concentrated flavors of blackberry, cassis, baking spices, and hints of cracked black pepper, and toasted cumin. Silky, supple tannins speak to the wine's delicate oak framing, while further allowing notes of black cherry, sweet oak, and stone to emerge in a pleasingly weight wine that evinces a delicate complexity and structure. Aged 26 months in 67% new French Oak, the wine finishes handsomely with length and aplomb. Confident and comfortable, soulful, yet refined, the wine bespeaks a rhapsodic familiarity not unlike Eric Clapton's acoustic solo-rendition of his classic "Layla"...

Layla, you've got me on my knees. Layla, I'm begging, darling please. Layla, darling won't you ease my worried mind

The cabernet for this elegant wine is grown on a unique parcel located in the Soda Canyon district, just south of the Stags Leap AVA at the cooler end of Napa Valley. Here, the soils are loamy, rocky and deep, supporting bigger and stronger vines that lend themselves to generous, layered wines noted for refinement and nuanced acidity. 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:	67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Petit Verdot
Vineyards:	Calistoga, Soda Canyon
Production:	147 cases
Harvest Date:	October $3 - 12^{th} 2014$
Cooperage:	69% new French oak - St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	February 15, 2017
Release Date:	Scheduled for March 2018

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