



MOONE • TSAI

Wine Profile

Moone-Tsai 2016 Black List XX – Coombsville

Tasting Notes

Approaching a mysterious opacity with its deeply dark ruby hues, Black List XX, our opening release for 2020, (and *twentieth* Black List wine produced in series), is *envisioned* to be a fitting tribute to the very first wine released under this imprimatur back in 2013. Then, as in now, we are pleased to present this selection as a quintessential example of our winemaking philosophy. *Note: for this and among subsequent Black List releases, we will be proud to feature additionally favored single-appellation wines for your anticipated enjoyment.*

Vibrant with aromas of black fruit, rose petal, pipe tobacco, and cherry cola, this 100% Cabernet Sauvignon shows off the glories emanating from the vintage's exceptional growing season. Exuberant and expressive on the attack, the wine's volume and density are notable, revealing nuanced flavors of blackberry, cassis, along with hints of wild raspberry, sweet oak, graphite, and baking spices. Featuring fine supple tannins and a pleasing acidity through the mid-palate, the wine finishes with resolve, ...and a wink to the vineyard's colorful founder and friend, John (F'ing!) Caldwell.

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 vineyard is planted on a gently sloping plateau, and the comparatively temperate climate of the area, versus the warmer territory up valley, serves to lengthen the growing season. 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:	Caldwell Block-16/Coombsville, Pritchard Hill
Production:	135 cases
Harvest Date:	Oct 9 th , 2016
Cooperage:	42% new French oak (20 months): St. Martin, Francois Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 26, 2018
Release Date:	Scheduled for February 2020

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