



Wine Profile
Moone-Tsai 2018 Black List XXIV

Tasting Notes

Long before many of us succumbed to the addiction that attends binge-watching our favorite TV- shows on Netflix, Hulu, etc.; some may recall the game-changing series, “24”, that starting on November 6, 2001, ran for eight remarkable seasons. Garnering 76 Emmy nominations, and 20 awards during this timeframe, “24” featured a young Kiefer Sutherland in the lead role of Jack Bauer, a special agent deployed by a U.S. counterterrorism unit, ... waging battle against the forces of evil in a post-9/11 world. Bauer and the show’s creators captured our rapt attention in a fashion that changed the way we interacted with television as a popular medium.

The release of our 24th **Black List wine** may well elicit similar, but slightly different responses. While we can’t promise that this wine’s arrival will get your adrenaline pumping; we do believe that pouring your first glass may arouse appropriate anticipation. Dark ruby in the glass, the wine offers heady aromas of black fruits, violets, and underbrush, suggestive of its force to be reckoned-with. The first sip does not demur, featuring an attack marked by crushed blackberry, blueberries, dark cherry, stone, and earthy-ferrous accents. Fermented in puncheons and stainless-steel tanks (7-days cold-soak, 23-days on-skins), the wine is aged for 18-months in 70% new French oak, ...to reveal firm, grainy tannins, an underlying freshness, handsome layering, and a grand finish. Direct and uninhibited, the wine may be compared to the vibrant, dashing British Formula-One driver, James Hunt, who raced for Team-McLaren to win the 1976 Formula One/World Championship. Those who followed Hunt’s brilliant career (chronicled in part in the Ron-Howard-directed-film, *Rush*) may recall that the #24 also adorned Hunt’s early F-1 race cars.

The grapes that comprise this wine were grown from a heralded, but hard-to-access vineyard located just outside Calistoga. With Cabernet Sauvignon, Cab Franc, and Petite Verdot grown on the slopes of Diamond Mountain, this combination in the hands of Philippe Melka is nothing less than exquisite.

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:	43% Petit Verdot, 31% Cab Franc, 26% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards:	Diamond Mountain
Production:	130 cases
Harvest Date:	October 9 th – 25 th , 2018
Cooperage:	18-months: 70% new French oak: St. Martin, Fr. Freres, Taransaud
Bottle Date:	June 23, 2020
Release Date:	April 30, 2021

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