

#### 2005 THE FERAL FOX PINOT NOIR

# darrys and chester's winemaking phieosophy the art of meing sufferent



d'Arenberg winery has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The names of their wines illustrate the point. We admit they are a bit odd, but because they have real significance, the stories behind the names are on the back labels.

## VINEYARD

In 1912, Joseph Osborn purchased the well-established vineyard just north of the township of McLaren Vale. Joseph's son, Frank, built d'Arenberg's cellars in 1927. By 1957, Frank's son, d'Arry, had bottled the first of the famous diagonal red striped wines.

Enter the fourth generation, d'Arry's son, Chester, who took over the reigns in 1984. In 1990, Chester was crowned, "McLaren Vale Bushing King," for producing the best table wine in McLaren Vale and in December, 2005, The Wine Advocate declared him, "Wine Personality of the Year."

# HANDCRAFTED WINES AND BASKET PRESSING

Four generations of learning have provided current Chief Winemaker, Chester Osborn with an intimate knowledge of his vineyards (now totaling over 345 acres) and a healthy respect for the differing fruit characters obtained from the individual vineyard sites.

Nineteenth century basket presses are extensively utilized to press the fruit, both white and red, providing a gentle extraction of juice. Much of the red fruit is fermented in 5 ton wax-lined, headed down, open fermenters. Both American and French oak barriques are used extensively.

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# **REGION**Adelaide Hills, South Australia

**Varieties: Pinot Noir (100%)** 

Maturation: 9 months in new and older French oak

Technical Analysis: 14.5% alc/vol.

### INFORMATION

The feral foxes that inhabit this area have developed an appetite for grapes as a replacement for their old favorite, the local rabbit, whose numbers have reduced substantially in recent years dues to the Calici virus. The folks at d'Arenberg, however, are unfazed, as the foxes actually act as crop thinners, which ultimately enhances the quality of those grapes too high to reach.

The 2005 Feral Fox is an expressive medium bodied wine with aromas of dark cherries, Satsuma plums, boysenberries, strawberries, and complex spices and fragrant dried herbs. This wine expresses a gorgeous mix of ripe fruits; boysenberry, strawberry, sour cherries and wild plum. The texture is kept in check with elevated acidity and ripe firm tannins.

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Fernl Fox

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