









2007 d'ARENBERG THE CUSTODIAN GRENACHE

WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn

R E G I O N: McLaren Vale, South Australia

VARIETALS: Grenache

MATURATION: 12 months in new and older American & French oak barriques

ANALYSIS: 14.5% alc/vol | 7.1 g/L | 3.34 pH

BACKGROUND:

In 1959, Francis d'Arenberg (d'Arry) Osborn began bottling d'Arenberg wines under the now famous Red Stripe label. Today, d'Arenberg is the keeper of nearly 1/3rd of all of McLaren Vale's mature Grenache bush-vines. d'Arry has now celebrated 65 consecutive vintages, with consistent critical acclaim of their coveted Grenache-based wines.

WINEMAKING:

Winemaker Chester Osborn guides the finest small-batch Grenache parcels from the vintage through the gentle 'Demoisy' crusher, into open fermenters and then into 19th century basket-presses. Natural minimal processing ensures maximum flavor which results in a harmless deposit in the bottle. This wine will benefit from extended bottle aging and decanting.

TASTING NOTES:

The complex nose shows bright red fruits, lavender, violets and spicy lift. The palate is full bodied and brooding with a structural backbone of tannin that runs the length of the palate. Plum, raspberry and dark cherry open before a second layer of earth, smoked meats and dried herb emerge with a subtle hint of cedar oak on the finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

89+pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 89 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 89pts Wine Spectator, 88 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT d'ARENBERG

One of the undisputed kings of Australian Shiraz and Rhone varietals, d'Arenberg has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The original vineyards were established by Joseph Osborn in 1912 in the McLaren Vale region of South Australia. A century on, the estate has grown to 345 acres, and the mantle now rests with fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vine material, the Osborn clan has successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of concentrated, characterful wines. Ranked among Australia's Top 10 Shiraz producers by Wine & Spirits Magazine in July 2007, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.





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