



U P C : 767749 002664

2010 d'ARENBERG THE FRUIT BAT SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	Single Vineyard - McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Shiraz
MATURATION :	18 months in new & older American & French oak barriques
ALCOHOL :	14.6% alc/vol 6.2 g/L TA 3.55 pH

BACKGROUND :

There is an old shearing shed in the middle of this vineyard that's still used to shear d'Arenberg's Dorper sheep. The hessian sacks hanging from the rafters have attracted a family of tiny fruit bats that hang upside down between the dark folds undisturbed.

THE VINEYARD :

Sub-Region - Beautiful View **Planted** - 1999 **Altitude** - 120m above sea level
Proximity to the Ocean - 9km **Soil** - Shallow Sand and Grey Loam

WINEMAKING :

Fruit is gently crushed in an open-mouthed, rubber-toothed, Demoisy crusher before being transferred to open vessels for fermentation. Here the cap is permanently submerged beneath the free run juice, avoiding any harsh plunging or pumping over. Traditional foot-treading takes place after fermentation is complete, then gentle basket pressing precedes transfer to barrel for maturation. The ability for a wine to age was a primary consideration and with careful cellaring this wine will drink well until at least 2030.

TASTING NOTES :

Plenty of lift on the nose, just like its neighboring vineyard, Little Venice. It shows more white pepper and fennel, mulberries and plums too, mixed with a pinch of dried flowers. A peppery fennel entry to the palate, very fresh and spicy, a touch of fresh black olives with juicy raspberries coming to mind as the most obvious fruit. The tannins are elegant, long and mineral. There's a vibrancy here with moreish texture and fine balance.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 92 pts Wine Spectator, 92 pts Wine & Spirits

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.



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