

2012 d'ARENBERG THE DERELICT VINEYARD GRENACHE

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Grenache
MATURATION :	12 months in older American & French oak barriques
ANALYSIS :	14.2% alc/vol 6.6g/L TA 3.50 pH

THE ART OF BEING DIFFERENT :

Some years ago Chester Osborn, sought out additional premium Grenache fruit from McLaren Vale to meet the high demand for d'Arenberg's Grenache-based wines. Many old vineyards showed promise but had not been used for grape production for decades; the vines resembled Medusa's hair - wild, struggling and gnarled. The taming and rejuvenation of these vineyards has occurred over several years, but the results have been dramatic, with the gnarly old vines producing fruit of amazing density and richness.

WINEMAKING :

The low-yielding Grenache fruit was hand-picked, and after gentle crushing in the 'Demoisy' crusher, separate parcels were fermented in traditional headed-down open fermenters. Gentle pressing took place in 19th century basket-presses with fermentation completed in barrels.

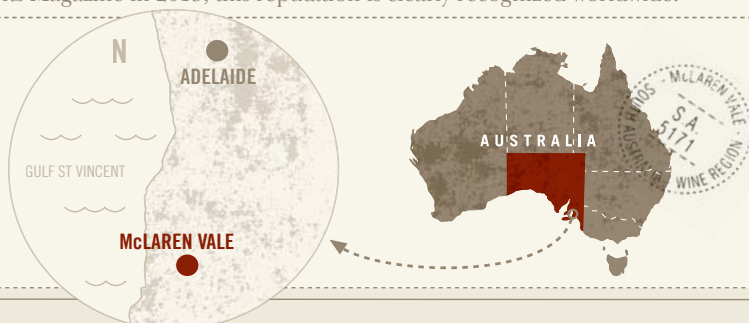
TASTING NOTES :

The nose is bursting with aromas of mixed flowers, cherries, mulberries and purple plums. A secondary layer of more earthy, exotic notes put a real stamp on this wine. Ground nutmeg, Italian cured meats and freshly turned soil are a testament to the minimal intervention in the vineyard, the age of the vines and the great sites that those vines have been planted on. The palate is textured and full flavored. More sweet fruits accompanied by the raft of savory notes are carried through the palate on a fine yet gritty tannin structure. These tannins, along with the bright natural acidity, lead the wine to a long and lingering finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 95 pts Australian Wine Companion, 93 pts/Best Buy Wine & Spirits, 90+ pts Vinous, 90 pts The Wine Advocate, 89 pts Wine Spectator

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 as one of the Top 100 Wineries and Top Value Brands in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine in 2013, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



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