



## 2006 d'ARENBERG THE LAUGHING MAGPIE

### Review Summary



**94 pts** “Rich, velvety, luscious fruit flavours saying more about McLaren Vale than viognier; chocolate rather than apricot; however, no niggles about the wine.”

**James Halliday**  
2009 Wine Companion

**92 pts** “The 2006 The Laughing Magpie is composed of 94% Shiraz and 6% Viognier. Deep crimson/violet in color, it offers up notes of cherry, ginger, black tea, tar, and blueberry. Medium to full-bodied, layered flavors of cherry, blueberry, and dark chocolate make an appearance accompanied by ripe tannin and excellent concentration leading to a long, refined finish. It will benefit from 3-4 years of cellaring and drink well through 2020.”

**Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate**  
October 2007 (Issue 173)

**90 pts** “Ruby-red. Seductive red and dark berries on the nose, with deeper soy and dark chocolate notes. Fresh and juicy, with energetic blueberry and cassis flavors, a hint of violet pastille and dusty tannins. Firms up on the finish, taking on notes of licorice and plum preserve. Impressively persistent, sappy and really delicious now.”

**Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar**  
July/August 2007 (Issue 133)

**Gold Medal**

2008 Royal Adelaide Wine Show

**88 pts** “This wine comes out of the chute with a little tar and rubber on the nose, so decant it to allow the underlying aromas of stone fruits to emerge. It’s round and supple in the mouth, with no sharp edges, just an easy drinkability and a touch of astringency on the finish. Drink now–2015.”

**Joe Czerwinski**  
Wine Enthusiast  
June 2009



## When a Double Magnum is Just the Right Bottle

Mr. Saelens recommends a magnum of Australia's d'Arenberg, The Laughing Magpie, 2006, "a lovely wine of Shiraz and Viognier." Not all large format comes from France. Delicious, affordable fine wines are poured into large bottles from South Africa, Spain, Australia, Lebanon, Italy, Portugal and California. "There is a bit of snobbism in Europe that magnums are for European wines alone," says Mr. Saelens, an expat Australian who has been running his wine shop, Mig's World Wines, in Brussels for 15 years. "But anybody in the New World will do it for the quality, not to make big volumes for fun and games."

Jennie d'Amato  
Wall Street Journal Online  
July 22, 2009