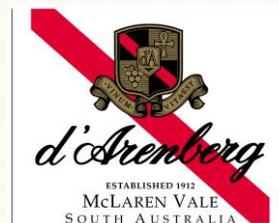


2007 d'ARENBERG THE LAUGHING MAGPIE

Review Summary



94 pts “Purple violet in color and a dramatic bouquet of blueberry, sweet smoke, summer flowers, and exotic minerals. You could almost get drunk off of the aromas themselves! Tons of pleasure in this full bodied wine with expressive flavors of ripe and candied blueberries, dominant spices, blackberry, mulberry and smoky charcoal that provide an incredibly long and complex finish that will only make you want more. The 5% Viognier helps keep the tannins in check and provides balance. Incredible wine and you'll be drinking this for the next 10-12 years thinking the same thing!”

Jeff Lawson
www.midwestwineguy.com Blog
March 29, 2011

93 pts “Some bright, fresh wood shavings here, then it builds deeper, spicy fragrance with plenty of dark dried plum fruits, a subtle apricot nuance and earthy licorice too. The palate delivers strong licorice flavor, fiercely regional, there's dark plum fruit washed along with fine, savory tannin. Terrific shape and balance here, really nicely crafted from top to toe, impressive length too.”

Nick Stock
The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide 2010

92 pts “Shiraz-Viognier blends have become quite the ticket in recent years (what to do with all that so-so Viognier) but one of the first and still one of the best is the Laughing Magpie. The opaque purple-colored 2007 Laughing Magpie Shiraz (90%)-Viognier (10%) offers up an expressive bouquet of smoke, mineral violets, and wild blueberry. Medium-to full-bodied on the palate, it has tons of ripe blue fruits, spice notes, and enough structure to evolve for 2-3 years. This lengthy, pleasure-bent effort will be at its best from 2010 to 2020.”

Robert Parker
The Wine Advocate
February, 2009



91 pts “Opaque black-purple color. This red sports a fleshy fruitbasket bouquet, full of exotic flowers, spices, white pepper, vanilla, peach, black cherry, and dark berries. Warm and fleshy on the palate, with a flash of blueberry pie. This bottling has an incredibly consistent track record for over 15 vintages and, in 2007, it delivers again.”

Glen Frederiksen
Wine Lines Online
July 2011

88 pts - Best of the Best by Variety “A little too much viognier apricot; a wine with good flavor and very pronounced acidity; lacks balance.”

James Halliday
Australian Wine Companion
2010

91 pts “Deep, bright-rimmed ruby. Exotically perfumed, sexy bouquet of blackberry and mulberry, along with fresh flowers and incense. Pliant dark berry flavors coat the palate, picking up a suave candied floral quality with air. Leaves a trail of Asian spices behind on the long, juicy finish. Already complex enough to drink.”

Josh Raynolds
Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
Sept/Oct 2008

4 Stars “This wine has come a long way since the first examples which were too heavy on the viognier for my taste. This is a far more restrained wine, with fine elegant body and a firmer structure. Still an infant, it can be enjoyed earlier, but over time should fill out into a delicious McLaren Vale red. Give it another five or so years.”

Fergus McGhie
Canberra Times
August 2009

16.5 out of 20 “Blackberries, moderate bite-back from the tannins, a certain fragrant length from the Viognier. Powerful and spicy, with good layers of flavor and a pleasant grainy mouth feel.”

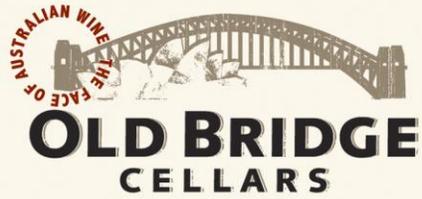
Jancisrobinson.com
2010

SILVER MEDAL

2009 Sommelier Challenge

CRITICS GOLD

2010 Critics Challenge



“Medium to dark garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of cassis, white flowers, and honey. In the mouth the wine offers a juicy blackberry and honeysuckle aspect, with a nice cedar and cocoa powder aspect that lingers in the finish. Muscular persistent tannins and nice acidity. This wine is 10% Viognier, more than usual to compensate for an aggressively tannic Shiraz year. Score: around 8.5.”

Alder Yarrow
Vinography.com
April 10, 2010

