

## 2012 d'ARENBERG THE GALVO GARAGE CABERNET BLEND

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale and Adelaide Hills, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Cabernet Sauvignon (65%), Merlot (21%), Petit Verdot (14%)
MATURATION :	18 months, Predominantly 1 & 2 year old French oak
ANALYSIS :	14.1% alc/vol   3.48 pH   7.3 g/L TA

### BACKGROUND :

'Garagiste' refers to producers in Bordeaux that make wine in their garage outside of the strict 'Appellation Controlee' system. d'Arenberg wines are all made in a small - batch process, very hands on (or feet, as the reds are all foot - trod) as the 'garagistes' do. The reds are made in the old galvanised shed/winery, hence 'Galvo'.

### WINEMAKING :

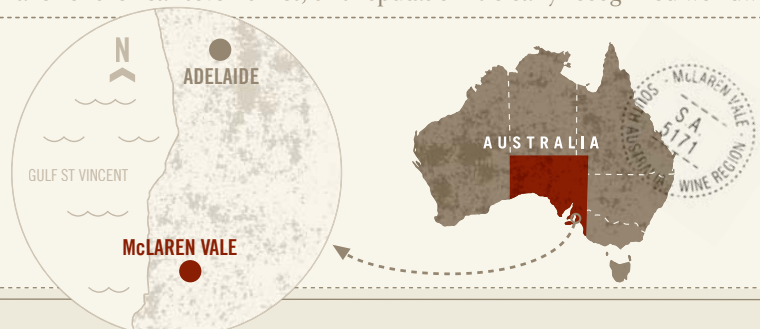
Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to five ton headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of new and used French barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. This wine does not undertake fining or filtration prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES :

Primary fruit characters of cassis, tomato leaf and red bell pepper are gently giving way to secondary notes of forest floor, black olive, fresh leather and mixed spice. A lovely cedary note also adds to the ever more complex nature of this wine. The mouthfeel is particularly sleek, with balanced fruit and tannins that purr from one end of the palate to the other. No rollercoaster ride here but rather a passage marked by consistency and length. Enjoy this wine now, as the window has opened, and similarly for some years into the future.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM :** Not yet reviewed. 2011 vintage: **94 pts** Australian Wine Companion, **88 pts** International Wine Cellar

**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 4th-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vine material, the Osborns have successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of expressive, characterful wines. Receiving the accolades Winery of the Year 24 times and Winemaker of the Year seven times, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



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