



2007 d'ARENBERG THE LOVE GRASS SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER :	Chester Osborn
REGION :	McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS :	Predominantly Shiraz
MATURATION :	20 months in new and older American & French oak barriques
ALCOHOL :	14.5% alc/vol 7.3 g/L TA 3.38 pH

BACKGROUND :

A wild grass, the Love Grass, often grows in the vineyards surrounding the d'Arenberg winery. During vintage, the sticky, Velcro-like, long stemmed flowers of the Love Grass affectionately attach themselves to the vineyard workers' socks. This Shiraz will also linger with you and, as such, the family thought it fitting to name this wine 'The Love Grass'.

VINTAGE NOTES :

Owing largely to drought and a warm start to Summer, the 2007 vintage started extremely early. These conditions caused short shoot length and reduced berry and bunch sizes. In late January a 50mm downpour reduced yields further, but was a welcome relief for many of the dry grown vineyards that contribute to The Love Grass. Moderately warm weather followed to ripen the fruit in low stress conditions that resulted in good flavour concentration and excellent levels of natural acidity.

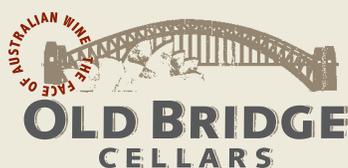
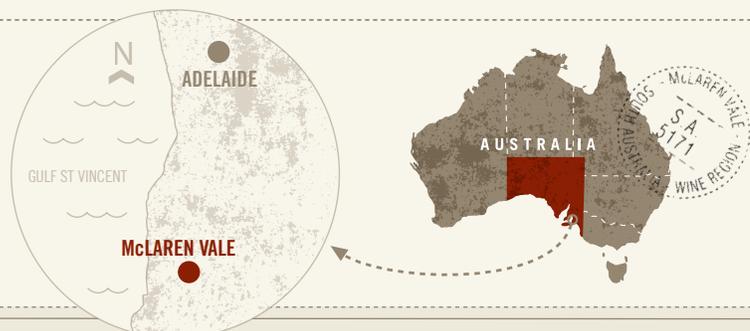
TASTING NOTES :

The nose is wonderfully complex and inviting with a mixture of spice, pepper, cedar, floral blossoms and a touch of bell pepper tied together by a subtle roasted coffee bean aroma. The palate opens with juicy red fruits, licorice and violets and building layer on layer to cracked pepper and nuances of dark chocolate and spice. There is great length with fine powdery fruit tannins and a lingering cinnamon character.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM : 89 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 87+ pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 85 pts Wine Enthusiast

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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