

2011 d'ARENBERG THE NOBLE WRINKLED

WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: McLaren Vale, South Australia
VARIETALS: Riesling
ANALYSIS: 10.0% alc/vol | TA: 10.5 | RS: 189.5 g/L | pH: 3.39

BACKGROUND:

Botrytis cinerea (or Noble Rot as it more affectionately known) weakens the skin of grapes causing the water inside the berry to evaporate. With the water evaporated the skins are wrinkled and the berries full of sugar and nutrients.

WINEMAKING:

Late harvesting took place by hand in small volumes when fruit flavors and the Botrytis cinerea was at an optimal point. The grapes were gently crushed before receiving a small amount of skin contact. The juice was separated via the gentle process of basket pressing. Fermentation occurred in a number of small tanks using neutral yeast to cope with the high natural sugar levels and to avoid dominating the fruit characters. The fermentation stopped naturally, retaining a considerable level of residual sugar.

TASTING NOTES:

If "death by chocolate" truly exists, then this is certainly the vinous equivalent. Decadence is an understatement. Oozing sweet marmalade, raisin and honeysuckle flavors. The true threat however of this wine lies in the zesty, vibrant lemon and lime sherbet notes, which ensure that we are left salivating and returning ever so quickly for more. Liquid Gold!

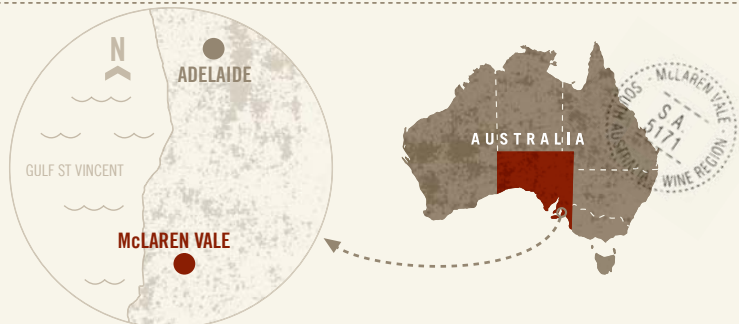
CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

90 pts The Wine Advocate, 90 pts Australian Wine Companion

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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