



2008 d'ARENBERG THE NOBLE PRANKSTER

WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: Adelaide Hills, South Australia
VARIETALS: Chardonnay (95%), Semillon (5%)
ANALYSIS: 13.5% alc/vol | 147.5 g/L | 3.62 pH

THE ART OF BEING DIFFERENT:

Ever the prankster, Chester Osborn has stepped outside the usual sticky suspects of straight Riesling and Semillon to make a Chardonnay Semillon blend. It may look like a normal sticky, but look again, because when done well, sticky Chardonnay can be majestic.

WINEMAKING:

Late harvesting from three vineyards took place by hand in small volumes when fruit flavors and the Botrytis cinerea infections were at an optimal point. Often there are multiple picking of each vineyard. The fruit was gently crushed before receiving a small amount of skin contact. The juice was separated via the gentle process of basket pressing. Fermentation occurs 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.

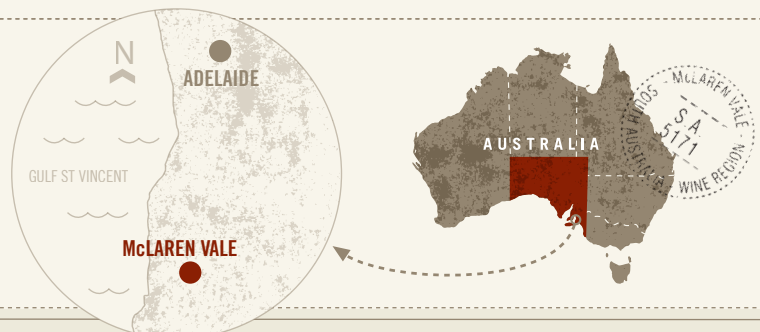
TASTING NOTES:

Vibrant yellow-gold with a youthful nose of grapefruit, lemon and lime characters. This unctuous, luscious wine coats the mouth with an explosion of exotic and intense fruit including yellow peach, quince, green melon and a wonderful lemon butter nuance. There is a long spicy note before it finishes with a lingering and refreshing green mango character and minerality.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 91 pts Wine Spectator, 91 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 91 pts Wine & Spirits Magazine

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 among Australia's Top 10 Shiraz producers by Wine & Spirits Magazine in July 2007, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



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