



2010 d'ARENBERG McLaren SANDS GRENACHE

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| WINEMAKER : | Chester Osborn |
| REGION : | McLaren Sands sub-region - McLaren Vale, South Australia |
| VARIETALS : | Grenache |
| MATURATION : | 14 months in new & old French oak barriques |
| ANALYSIS : | 14.0% alc/vol TA: 6.2 pH: 3.4 |

BACKGROUND :

The McLaren Sand Hills sub region is located in the eastern side of the McLaren Vale GI. The characteristics of this younger geology (100 000 - 2.6 million years) is sand on clay which has two distinct influences. Wines from this area are beautifully fragrant due to the sand and have great concentration and complexity of soil character due to the young clay. All of this accentuates the fruitiness of the wines while the vine age, low yield and clay geology ensure a concentrated, soil-expressive wine.

WINEMAKING :

Fruit is gently crushed in an open-mouthed, rubber-toothed, Demoisy crusher before being transferred to open vessels for fermentation. Here the cap is permanently submerged beneath the free run juice, avoiding any harsh plunging or pumping over. Traditional foot-treading takes place after fermentation is complete, then gentle basket pressing precedes transfer to barrel for maturation.

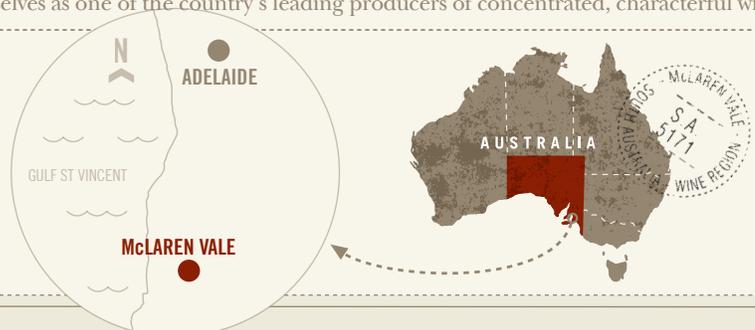
TASTING NOTES :

The nose has expressive aromas of sweet red fruits, blueberry and plum. Another sniff reveals nuances of earth and game which give the wine another dimension. The palate is plush and opens with bright, pure fresh fruit characters that Grenache does so well. The mid palate is fleshy with flavors of salami, soil and game building to a long finish with fragrant Indian spices mingling with the chalky, flowery tannins that are lively and lingering. The tannins are wonderfully balanced and the graphite like acidity is linear and provides wonderful focus to the rich fruit. This Grenache will benefit from careful cellaring for at least 15 years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

91 pts Stephen Tanzer's 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 fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vines, the Osborns have successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of concentrated, characterful wines.



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