









2009 d'ARENBERG THE DERELICT VINEYARD GRENACHE

WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn

R E G I O N: McLaren Vale, South Australia

VARIETALS: Grenache

MATURATION: 12 months in older American & French oak barriques

ALCOHOL: 14.5% alc/vol

THE ART OF BEING DIFFERENT:

Some years ago Chester Osborn, sought out additional premium Grenache fruit from McLaren Vale to meet the high demand for d'Arenberg's Grenache-based wines. Many old vineyards showed promise but had not been used for grape production for decades; the vines resembled Medusa's hair - wild, struggling and gnarled. The taming and rejuvenation of these vineyards has occurred over several years, but the results have been dramatic, with the gnarly old vines producing fruit of amazing density and richness.

WINEMAKING:

The low-yielding Grenache fruit was hand-picked, and after gentle crushing in the 'Demoisy' crusher, separate parcels were fermented in traditional headed-down open fermenters. Gentle pressing took place in 19th century basket-presses with fermentation completed in barrels.

TASTING NOTES:

The nose is an inviting swirl of flowers, spice, earth and red fruits including strawberries and mulberries. The palate is a textural wonderland, slippery graphite then grainy, gritty fruit tannin flows into earthy grip betraying its old-vine concentration. All the while the ripe red fruits dance about, keeping everything fresh and zingy. This is an intense, structured Grenache worthy of aging to build upon its already complex character. This is real Grenache, at its best.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

94 pts Australian Wine Companion, 91 pts International Wine Cellar, 88 pts Wine Spectator A B O U T 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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