

## 2013 d'ARENBERG THE WILD PIXIE

<b>WINEMAKER :</b>	Chester Osborn
<b>REGION :</b>	McLaren Vale, South Australia
<b>VARIETALS :</b>	Shiraz (92%), Roussanne (8%)
<b>MATURATION :</b>	18 months in new and older French and American oak
<b>ANALYSIS :</b>	14.6% alc/vol   TA: 7.2 g/L   pH: 3.45

### BACKGROUND :

In a 2006 blending session of The Stump Jump White, Chester took the unusual step of adding a small parcel of the relatively unknown variety Roussanne. A well known wine journalist reviewed the finished wine and described Chester as a 'wild pixie' for concocting such a crazy blend. Taking the moniker as a compliment Chester was inspired to make an even more audacious blend involving Roussanne, this time combining it with Shiraz.

### WINEMAKING :

Small batches are crushed and then transferred to five tonne headed-down open fermenters where the Roussanne and Shiraz are co-fermented. Foot treading is undertaken two-thirds of the way through fermentation. When tannin extraction is just right the wine is basket pressed and transferred to oak barriques. The barrel fermented component is aged on lees to slow aging and keep the wine fresher while also reducing the oak influence.

### TASTING NOTES :

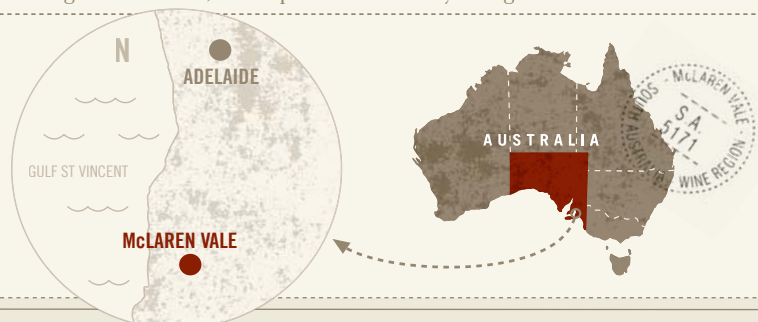
A little patience is required to coax the aromas out of this wine, but once the flood gates open there is no holding them back. Typical of The Wild Pixie the characters are dark and exotic. Blackberry, clove, licorice, bitter chocolate, earth and a hint of ash. The palate is full of grunt and power with the beefy black fruits matched by a ferrous like core of tannin. A real conversation stopper and a wine that promises a long and prosperous future.

### CRITICAL ACCLAIM :

90 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 90 pts Vinous

### 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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