2016 CULLEN
EPHRAIM CLARKE

WINEMAKER: Vanya Cullen
REGION: Margaret River, Western Australia
VARIETALS: Sauvignon Blanc (76%), Semillon (24%)
MATURATION: 60% for 9 months in new French oak barriques (70% new)
ALCOHOL: 13.0% alc/vol

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, SUSTAINABILITY: The Cullen vineyard and winery is carbon neutral, biodynamically farmed and dry-grown with an 'A' grade certification from the Biological Farmers Association. Grapes are the only ingredients in Cullen wines.

VINTAGE NOTES: As usual, this blend contains a greater volume of Sauvignon Blanc than Semillon, which reflects the outstanding qualities of the fruit produced by the former variety on the Cullen Vineyard. The grapes were picked at optimal ripeness with harvest conditions quite similar to 2015 resulting in elegant wines and displaying beautiful fruit purity. Complexity and completeness have been enhanced through maturing some of the wine in new oak.

TASTING NOTES: Vibrant fruit lifted by citrus nuances. A very complex wine already with lovely stone fruit nuances and toasty characteristics. The barrel fermentation contribution is seamless and is playing the second role. A brilliant example of this classic blend and a wine that will cellar for up to 15 years.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 95 pts JamesSuckling.com, 94 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 90 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT CULLEN: A founding winery of Margaret River, Cullen was established in 1971 by pioneering winemakers Kevin and Diana Cullen. In redefining the style of Australian Cabernet Sauvignon produced in the 1970s, the fledgling estate caught the attention of the nation. Since then, an unrelenting commitment to quality and site expression has positioned Cullen as one of Australia's greatest estates - and Margaret River as one of the nation's premier wine-producing regions. The mature, biodynamically-farmed vineyards produce elegant, age-worthy wines that draw worldwide critical acclaim, including what is regarded by many as the country's definitive Bordeaux blend.

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MARGARET RIVER

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