

2014 d'ARENBERG

THE GALVO GARAGE CABERNET BLEND



WINEMAKER: Chester Osborn
REGION: McLaren Vale and Adelaide Hills, South Australia
VARIETALS: Cabernet Sauvignon (54%), Petit Verdot (23%), Merlot (23%)
MATURATION: 18 months in predominantly 1 & 2 year old French oak
ANALYSIS: 14.5% alc/vol | TA: 7.1 g/L | pH: 3.53

BACKGROUND: 'Garagiste' refers to producers in Bordeaux that make wine in their garage outside of the strict 'Appellation Controlee' system. d'Arenberg wines are all made in a small - batch process, very hands on (or feet, as the reds are all foot - trod) as the 'garagistes' do. The reds are made in the old galvanised shed/winery, hence 'Galvo'.

WINEMAKING NOTES: Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to five ton headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of seasoned French barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, and there is no racking until final blending. This wine does not undertake fining or filtration prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES: Slightly funky and reductive at first, this wine soon reveals varietal Cabernet aromas of black olive, black currants and bay leaf. The palate has nice weight, and tastes of mulberry and spice. There's reasonable tannin, although not too aggressive, and the wine concludes with moderate acidity and long length of flavor.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 92 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 91 pts JamesSuckling.com

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.

