



## 2017 d'ARENBERG THE DEAD ARM

### Review Summary



#### 97 pts/WINE OF THE YEAR

London Wine Competition 2020

**95 pts** “Deep, dense purple/red colour, with concentrated chocolate and plum aromas and flavours, a fair degree of oak but not overdone, and a trace of reduction on the early nose. Dense, powerful, concentrated but all things in harmony. A biggie but a goodie.”

Huon Hooke  
The Real Review  
February 27, 2020

**94 pts** “Only Chester Osborn would name his icon wine after a disease, in this case, *eutypa dieback*, caused by a wood fungus that eventually kills off a cane on an old vine, leaving a dead arm that needs to be cut away. His collection of old-vine shiraz parcels include a lot of vines with dead arms, which then concentrate their efforts on the fruit they grow on the arms that remain. This 2017 shows that concentration in a stately, plump wine, radiating sun from its blue-black fruit and contrasting earthiness in its rooty, radish-like tannins. Supple and elegant, this has the stature to age with grace.”

Joshua Greene  
Wine & Spirits  
January 21, 2021

**94 pts** “This is a very composed and nicely layered rendition of this top-end shiraz with aromas of cocoa, dark plums, blackberries, cinnamon, licorice and dark cherries. The palate has a very impressive build of ripe dark-fruit and chocolate flavors. Layered and expansive, it swells impressively through the finish. Smoothly resolved and gently spicy.”

Nick Stock  
JamesSuckling.com  
May 26, 2020



**92+ pts** “Locked up tight and unyielding on the nose, d’Arenberg’s 2017 The Dead Arm Shiraz is nonetheless formidably dense and concentrated on the palate. Notes of charred wood join plums, raspberries and black olives in this full-bodied effort. With its current surly disposition, it appears to require decanting or several years’ sleep in a cool cellar. Giving it air helped bring out purple raspberries and softened the considerable tannins, so I’m optimistic about its future evolution.”

**Joe Czerwinski**  
**Robert Parker Wine Advocate**  
May 14, 2020

**91 pts** “Powerful, with concentrated juicy cherry, raspberry and wild strawberry flavors at the core amid tobacco notes and dusty tannins, plus a thread of crushed rock, fresh herb, and fresh, earthy loaminess. Plenty of harmony on the finish, where the tannins firm up.”

**MaryAnn Worobiec**  
**Wine Spectator**  
November 15, 2020

**91 pts** “The relatively cool hand of the 2017 vintage has added touches of freshness and elegance to many classically rich, powerful wines like this one. Postcard McLaren Vale notes of plums, blackberries, peppery, earthy spices and a little well-placed oak lead the way. The distinction is in the palate, where muscular, highly textural, rustic tannins are balanced by bright, juicy fruit. Not for fans of cushy, soft-around-the-middle Shiraz, but tannin-craving red lovers will find much enjoyment.”

**Christina Pickard**  
**Wine Enthusiast**  
October 19, 2020

**90 pts** “A fine spread of tannin and lingering length, but charm has been left at the door. Resin, stressed herb, alcohol warmth and baked plum flavours form the mainstay of the wine, and while it’s hefty, it’s a long way from being a peak release for this label.”

**Campbell Mattinson**  
**Halliday Wine Companion**  
August 6, 2020

**Best In Show By Quality**  
**Best In Show By Varietal/Shiraz**  
**Best In Show By Country**

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