



2010 Estate Syrah - *Donna's*
Estate Small Lot Collection - Sta. Rita Hills

Named for Ron Melville's wife, Donna, this fruit is from a three acre section at the north end of our property where the vines are planted in twenty feet of sand and is composed of two-thirds clone 1 and one-third Estrella clone. Fermented as 100% whole clusters and aged in neutral barrel, this wine provides vividly enhanced aromatics and structure making it demonstrative of the extreme cool climate of our site. Fruit was fermented in small 1.5 ton open-top fermenters with total skin and stem contact averaging 30 days (a 7 day cold soak, 2+ weeks fermentation and 1+ week extended maceration). From the press, the wine was transferred directly into neutral barrel where it remained sur lie with no sulfur until May and was then prepared for bottling in December. Yields were 3.0 lbs/vine (2.8 tons per acre). 386 cases produced.

Robert Parker: 91 points

Stephen Tanzer: 92 points

***Tasting notes:** Brick red in color, the initial bouquet lends impressions of grilled figs, ripe black cherries and semi-sweet chocolate. On the palate, tightly wound herbal notes of sage, whole sprig rosemary and underbrush contrast with rich nuances of plum duck sauce, salt cod, teriyaki and kalamata olives. The finish is vibrant and seductive with tremendous focus and concentration.*

AVA: Sta. Rita Hills

100% Syrah

Cases Produced: 386

Clones: Estrella, clone 1

Elevage: Aged in neutral barrel (10 year old French oak)

Fermentation: 100% whole cluster

Alcohol: 15.0%

Release Date: 10.31.12