



2012 Melville Estate Syrah - Verna's

This is 100% Melville estate fruit from our ranch in Los Alamos and is named in honor of Ron Melville's mother. Verna's Vineyard Syrah is composed of seven different clones: (Estrella, Shiraz 1, Tablas 99, 174, 383, 470 and 877). 30% of the grapes were fermented as whole-cluster with 70% de-stemmed in small 1.5 ton open-top fermenters. Total skin and stem contact averaged 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 (old French oak) where it remained sur lie without sulfur until May, when it was racked for the first time and prepared for bottling in August. Yields were 3.7 lbs/vine (3.4 tons/acre).

Robert Parker: 94 points

Tasting Notes: Dark electric purple in color, with aromatics of molasses, blueberry compote, beef carpaccio and hickory bark coming through initially. On the palate, intense and savory notes of hoisin sauce, iodine and squid ink mingle with hints of eucalyptus, mustard flower and lavender. Texturally the wine is velvety and streamlined, finishing with both grace and precision.

100% Syrah
Clones: Estrella, Shiraz 1, Tablas 99, 174, 383, 470 and 877
40% whole cluster fermented
Neutral barrel (5-20 year old French oak barrels)
Alcohol 14.0%
Cases Produced: 2,603
Released: 05.13.2014