



2014 Estate Syrah - Donna's ***Estate Small Lot Collection - Sta. Rita Hills***

Named for Ron Melville's wife, Donna's block is planted atop twenty feet of sand in the northeast section of our vineyard and is composed of equal parts clone 1 and Estrella clone. Fermented with 100% whole clusters and aged in neutral barrel, this wine provides vividly enhanced aromatics and structure making it demonstrative of the extremely cool climate of the site on which it is grown. 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 French oak barrels where it remained sur lie with no sulfur until May and was then prepared for bottling in December. Yields were 3.7 lbs/vine (3.1 tons per acre).

Robert Parker: 97 Points
Antonio Galloni: 92 Points

Tasting Notes: *With a dark brick colored hue, intoxicating aromatics of rhubarb, cocoa powder and beef carpaccio are immediately noticeable up front. With time, secondary impressions of liquid smoke, stewed black cherries and licorice emerge alongside a bouquet of juniper, rose petals and peppery herbs. The palate impression is pure and seamless with tremendous depth, clarity and drive.*

AVA: Sta. Rita Hills
100% Syrah
Cases Produced: 440
Clones: Estrella, Clone 1
Elevage: Aged in neutral barrel (10-20 year old French oak)
Fermentation: 100% whole cluster
Alcohol: 15.0%