



THE FOUNDRY



THE FOUNDRY Grenache Noir 2017

VITICULTURE

Sourced from a 1 hectare vineyard at Fijndraai in Stellenbosch on heavily de-composed granite soils and just 4 km from False Bay. The vineyard is North-West facing and managed by Chris Williams. Planted in 2007, the vineyard is starting to come into its own in terms of quality and site expression. The vines are trellised which allow us to precisely manage the canopy to enhance fruit, complexity and balance. A small crop was ripened under the good perfect conditions of 2017 and harvested at modest sugar levels but at full flavour ripenes to ensure lower alcohol but brighter acidity and freshness and fruit expression

VINIFICATION

Hand harvested and cooled overnight, the grapes were partially de-stemmed and crushed with some whole berries and bunches remaining. About 15 % of stalks were used. The first stage of fermentation was un-inoculated with a neutral Rhone strain inoculated later to complete fermentation. Only 40% of the free run was barrel aged in seasoned tight grain French oak, with 60% remaining in cement tank for MLF. The blend was assembled after 8 months and given another 5 months to harmonize in neutral concrete tanks before bottling. No fining or Filtration.

TASTING NOTES

The Foundry Grenache Noir 2017 has a youthful deep ruby colour with good intensity on account of the low production per vine. On the nose there is a distinctive floral fleshy fruit quality intensified by black pepper, spice and a sanguine note. The palate is medium bodied with intense crushed dark fruit, peppery spiciness and an intricate fairy-dust like tannic structure. Persistent on the finish, this is delicious now and should improve and hold for up to 10 years.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

On revisiting this wine for release, it seems that the lifted fragrant perfume has become even more expressive due to a little more time in bottle. The youthful brightness is still evident on both the colour and aroma, but the wine seems to have pulled itself towards more completeness and complexity. Like great Pinot Noir, this Grenache is all about the mouthfeel with that fleshy fruit characteristic of low yielding Grenache, coupled with the powdery, almost talc-like tannins. After the 2014, 2015 and 2016 vintages, we have secured permanent use of this unusual vineyard and are looking forward to see the maturing of the vineyard.

Alcohol : 13.5 %vol

Total Acidity : 5.7 g/l

pH : 3.35

RS : 5.5 g/l

