



2008 SEMILLON WOODCUTTERS

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 90

Bright yellow-gold. Pear skin and melon aromas, complicated by pungent herbs, lemon zest and almond. Dry but fleshy, with sweet orchard and pit fruit flavors and good back-end cut. Rounder and deeper than most Hunter Valley semillons, with finishing notes of lemon custard and mint.

2008 VIOGNIER/MARSANNE/ ROUSSANNE

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 91

(a 50/40/10 blend) Yellow-gold. Lemon custard, tangerine and pear on the nose, with a suave floral quality adding complexity. Weighty pear and peach flavors are brightened by notes of orange peel and white pepper, with smoky and herbal notes building toward the back. This very rich but energetic blend finishes with impressive breadth and power, not to mention lingering spiciness and minerality.

2008 JUVENILES

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 90

(60% grenache and 20% each of shiraz and mataro) Ruby-red. Black raspberry and blueberry on the nose, with subtle floral and spice qualities adding complexity. Juicy and appealingly sweet, with lively red and dark berry flavors and tangy minerality. There's nothing heavy about this wine. The black raspberry note recurs on the focused finish. Livelier than the 2007 and the best version of this bottling I've yet tasted.

94



92

92



2007 DESCENDANT

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 94

(92% shiraz and 8% viognier) Inky ruby. Explosively perfumed nose displays scents of dark berry preserves, kirsch, saffras, violet and black olive, with a suave vanilla undertone. Broad, chewy blackcurrant and mulberry flavors are framed by velvety tannins and energized by spicy mineral and cracked pepper notes. Juicy and sweet but solidly built, with strong finishing lift and urgency. Really hangs onto the palate, leaving floral and spice notes behind.

2007 THE STRUIE

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 92

(100% shiraz) Inky ruby. Heady aromas of cassis, boysenberry, candied plum and licorice, with notes of cocoa powder and dried flowers coming up with air. Deeply concentrated dark berry flavors are given a bitter edge by cherry pit and black cardamom notes, with velvety tannins adding structure. A very smooth shiraz whose sweet, penetrating black and blue fruit flavors cling impressively on the finish.

2007 THE STEADING

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 92

(60% grenache with 20% each of mataro and shiraz) Medium red. Raspberry preserves and plum on the nose. Lush and creamy, with a decadent quality to the sweet red fruit flavors. Bitter chocolate and black tea notes add grip and structure to the powerful, liqueur-like fruit on the long, sappy, seductively sweet finish. Really clings to the palate. This is delicious now: I can barely find any tannins.

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JUICY AND SWEET BUT SOLIDLY BUILT, WITH STRONG FINISHING LIFT AND URGENCY. REALLY HANGS ONTO THE PALATE, LEAVING FLORAL AND SPICE NOTES BEHIND. JOSH RAYNOLDS ON 2007 DESCENDANT, 94 POINTS

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COMPLETELY STAINS THE PALATE WITH DEEP BLACK AND BLUE FRUIT FLAVORS BUT POSSESSES UNCANNY ENERGY, PICKING UP SMOKY MINERAL AND ASIAN SPICE NUANCES WITH AIR. AT ONCE CREAMY AND NERVY; THIS HITS EVERY CORNER OF THE PALATE.

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JOSH RAYNOLDS ON 2006 RUNRIG, 96 POINTS



96

2006 RUN RIG

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 96

(95% shiraz and 5% viognier) Glass-staining ruby. Heady aromas of black raspberry, blueberry pie, potpourri, sandalwood and patchouli, with a strong mineral quality adding urgency. Completely stains the palate with deep black and blue fruit flavors but possesses uncanny energy, picking up smoky mineral and Asian spice nuances with air. At once creamy and nervy; this hits every corner of the palate. The floral element returns on the finish, which features sappy boysenberry and candied licorice qualities and leaves nervy spice and mineral notes behind. Where are the tannins? Offers an extraordinary combination of concentration, power and elegance.

2006 LES AMIS

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 94

(100% grenache) Deep, vivid ruby. Strikingly perfumed bouquet of black raspberry, cherry pie, incense and anise. Lush and creamy, with deep, sweet red fruit and bitter cherry flavors complemented by notes of exotic candied flowers and licorice. Supple tannins frame the expansive fruit and add definition to the long, focused, spicy finish.

94



2006 THE FACTOR

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 94

(100% shiraz) Youthful violet color. Powerfully scented bouquet offers blackberry, cherry-cola, licorice, violet oil and vanilla, with mounting spiciness adding vivacity. Deep in dark berry flavors but by no means heavy, offering sweet floral and licorice pastille qualities and a lashing of smoky minerals. Unfolds slowly to show brighter red fruits. An extremely young shiraz with excellent finishing clarity and an echo of cola.

90



2006 THE PICT

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 93(+?)

(100% mataro) Glass-staining ruby. Powerful scents of blackcurrant, dark cherry, olive tapenade and incense, with a musky herbal undertone. Broad, palate-staining dark berry compote flavors are framed by velvety tannins and pick up notes of licorice and bitter chocolate with air. Pretty wild stuff, boasting excellent concentration and finishing sweetness. There are plenty of tannins here but the fruit seems to suck them up. Give this another four or five years in the cellar.

2008 THE BOTHIE (half bottle)

REGION: Barossa Valley
RATING: 90

(375 ml.) Pale yellow. Pear and white peach aromas are complemented by sweet butter, honey and rose. Supple and gently sweet, with pliant orchard and pit fruit flavors and no rough edges. Balances sweetness against vivacity, and finishes with gentle lift and spicy persistence. This will work very well with washed-rind cheeses.

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