

2008 THE BALLAD OF JOHN HENRY (r.i.p.) PROPRIETARY RED WINE



NOTES

The steel driving man who met his maker by pursuing his life passion and by way of his resistance to give into technology and progress – 'the way of the machine'.

Progress is good but I hate the seduction that technology brings with it (easier, faster, less labor-intensive) – some may be good but much is bad for our quality of life and for the products we create (if we're still creating actual products at all, that is...). Most methods we employ at Sanguis are 'antique' by just about any measure, and while striving for constant improvement I follow a philosophy that relies on basics rather than the fancy. So John Henry is an homage to hard work, simplicity and the good [physical] life. It's also a tip of the hat to an unapologetic broad-shouldered, sun-tanned masculinity that always maintains a balance of self-assured style, good manners and humility (much of which also seems to have gone amiss with the advent of technology in these fast lives of ours).

There is a bit of everything in this wine – Syrah (three different clones from as many different vineyards), Grenache from two different vineyards, Cabernet Sauvignon and (of course) a tiny bit of Viognier. Everything was co-fermented with everything else – making this wine was like an old-school block party, giving this wine a certain "je ne sais quoi" (which is unusual for a guy). [440 six-pack cases produced from about 5 acres]

- Matthias Pippig | Winegrower

WINE STATISTICS	
Varietals	Syrah (877 & E) 59% Grenache (T) 27% Cabernet Sauvignon (6) 14%
Vineyards	Tres Burros, Watch Hill, Bien Nacido, Grassini
Harvest Dates	October 2, 11 & 24, 2008
Yields	0.7 – 1.8 tons / acre ~ 0.6 – 2.3 lbs/vine
Brix (at harvest)	26-27.1
Alcohol	16.3%
рН	3.61/3.76 (at harvest/final)
Barrels / Coopers	Barriques, 300L Taransaud Cigarre barrels & 300L Hogs Heads (90% new oak)
Barrel Aging	39 months
Rackings	2 (including blend assembly)
Filtering / Fining	None
Blend Assembled	September 2010
Bottled	February 2012
Production	220 cases
Release Date	April 2012
Suggested Retail Price	\$65