

2009 'SOME POETS'-SYRAH



SOME *POETS*

NOTES

The last of the Syrahs from 2009 – Bien Nacido, Watch Hill with a bit of Viognier. There are layers of exotic stuff here, which only seem to emerge after considerable time in the dark and mysterious place that is a wine barrel – maybe what's inside starts to work that much harder to make itself so appealing because it has decided that its time to get the hell out of there and show itself to the world? I don't know.

Like the body of an athlete – where things are not only in correct proportion but you know they are so for a purpose – this wine strikes me as the most succinct of the '09s that we produced. As all wines from that vintage, it packs a rather solid 'punch' but remains light on its feet – like the rare athlete who make incredible effort look downright easy.

Composition: Syrah (about 15% whole cluster) co-fermented with 8% Viognier and Roussanne, and brought up in mostly certified pre-used™ and a couple of new 300L French oak barrels for 36 months. About 200 cases bottled. Unfined and unfiltered.

Note that we have changed the appellation on all of our labels from the very generic 'California' to (the only somewhat generic) Santa Barbara County appellation – owing to the fact that since 2009/10 we grow the raw materials in custom-planted vineyards where we hold long-term leases, all of which are located in the county. And because we believe that Santa Barbara county is one of the world's optimal growing regions, capable of consistently achieving greatness.

VITALS

Varietals	Syrah 95% (15% Whole Cluster), Viognier 5%
Vineyards	Bien Nacido
Harvest Dates	October 23 & 28
Yields	0.9-1.0 tons / acre 1 – 1.1 lbs/vine
Brix (at harvest)	25.5 - 26
Alcohol	15.6%
pH / TA	3.77 / 5.7
Barrels / Coopers	300L French Oak Hogs Head barrels (60% new / 40% used), then transferred to 500L used French Oak puncheons
Barrel Aging	36 months
Rackings	None
Filtering / Fining	None
Bottled	November 12, 2012
Production	200 (9L) cases
Scheduled Release	Spring 2013
Suggested Retail Price	\$75