



2010 FOOL'S JOURNEY, SYRAH/VIIGNIER

AVA: YAMHILL-CARLTON

PRODUCTION: 95 CASES

VINEYARD: DUEX VERT

WHOLE CLUSTER: 100%

VARIETAL: 90% SYRAH, 10% VIIGNIER

HARVEST DATE: OCTOBER 29TH

ELEVAGE: NEUTRAL FRENCH OAK

ALCOHOL 13.5%



THE SUREST SIGN OF THE PERFECT UNION BETWEEN GRAPE, SUN, AND SOIL IS A WINE THAT REQUIRES NO SCIENCE, NO TECHNOLOGY, NO MANIPULATION, YET REMAINS COMPELLING EACH TIME YOU PUT YOUR NOSE TO THE GLASS. THE GRAPES FROM DEUX VERT ARRIVE IN PERFECT CONDITION, THEY ARE NOT DESTEMMED, THERE IS NO COLD SOAK, THERE IS NO ENZYME, NO YEAST... JUST GRAPES. AFTER ONE DAY THEY ARE TRODDEN BY FOOT, TO ALLOW JUICE TO ESCAPE AND COVER THE MASS. EACH DAY THEY ARE TRODDEN TWICE PER DAY BY FOOT UNTIL THE MUST IS LIQUID ENOUGH FOR HAND PUNCHDOWNS. AFTER THE JUICE FERMENTS TO DRYNESS THE WINE IS RACKED DIRECTLY TO BARREL AND RESTED FOR 23 MONTHS.

THE SHALLOW SOILS AT DEUX VERT HOLD LITTLE MOISTURE THROUGH OREGON'S LONG GROWING SEASON. THIS LACK OF WATER SLOWS THE PLANTS NATURAL VEGETATIVE GROWTH AND PRODUCES SMALL CROPS THAT ARE EARLIER TO RIPEN. THIS ALLOWS THE LATE RIPENING SYRAH GRAPE TO REACH FLAVOR MATURITY IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY, ALTHOUGH THE BRIX ARE NATURALLY CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN ELSEWHERE IN THE NEW WORLD. PLANTED IN 1994 (VIIGNIER) AND 1995 (SYRAH) BOTH VARIETALS ARE COMING INTO MATURITY. .

THE NOSE IS EXPRESSIVE, BUT RATHER THAN A VIOLENT EXPLOSION OF UBER-MASCULINE NEW WORLD SEE-RAH, THIS IS A DELICATE FEMININE EXPERIENCE, CHANGING EACH TIME THE TASTER RETURNS TO THE GLASS. BLUEBERRY, VIOLETS, KIRSCH, LEATHER, BLACK PEPPER, AND TOBACCO WORK LIKE A CONGA LINE OF FRAGRANCE. THE PALATE HAS A WONDERFUL TENSION AND ELEGANCE, MEDIUM BODIED IT MOVES IN LINEAR FASHION IN THE MOUTH AND FINISHES WITH POWER, YET SEEMS ALMOST WEIGHTLESS.