# Rhapsody in Red

2019 | COLUMBIA VALLEY



42% Olsen Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon 36% Wallula Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 12% Wallula Vineyard Merlot 6% Wallula Vineyard Cabernet Franc 4% Dionysus Petit Verdot

TECHNICAL INFORMATION Alcohol: 13.9%

pH: 3.61

Residual Sugar: 0.18 g/liter

Titratable Acidity: 5.6 g/liter

Volitile Acidity: 0.52 g/liter

Cases Produced: 275



#### Harvest and Winemaking

2019 was a relatively warm vintage, in character with most of Washington's fabulous summers. However, an autumn freeze occurred around October 11 forcing a harvest of the remaining vineyards. The ripeness and flavor in the grapes were achieved by the time of the cold snap.

Rhapsody in Red is a Cabernet Sauvignon dominate Bordeaux style blend. We blended two lots of Cabernet Sauvignon with small amounts of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot to create a wine that is unique and different than each of its component parts.

All the grapes were hand-picked, hand-sorted, and destemmed whole berry. The individual lots were fermented with yeast specific for the grape variety and aged in French Oak for 8 months prior to blending and return to barrels for an additional 12 months of barrel aging. Rhapsody was aged in 25% new French Oak barrels and bottled unfined and unfiltered.

#### Tasting Notes

The Rhapsody has a very dark red hue. Aromas of black fruits, sea salt, dark earth, wet stones, graphite, umami, dried herbs, and vanilla oak. The flavors mirror the aromas with savory, black fruits, pencil lead, vanilla, and sea salt. The tannins and acidity are soft and approachable and the finish is long and desirable.

### **Thoughts on Vineyards** and Red Blends

All three vineyards: Dionysus, Olsen Ranch and Wallula are expertly farmed and located in superior grape growing areas of Washington. Wallula Vineyard is planted on benches that rise above the Columbia River which moderates temperatures and retains acidity in the wine. Olsen Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon was planted in 1999 and the soil is very rock and sandy which produces wines with salinity and smooth tannins. Dionysus is a warm site that ripens Petit Verdot quickly but creates a beautiful perfumed floral and purple fruit aromas in the wine.

Some of the greatest wines in the world are blends and represent the pinnacle of winemaking. our goals is to make a blend that tastes better than the sum of its components and be a recognizable reference point. Rhapsody in Red is a Bordeaux style red wine. The secret to a good blend is excellent vineyard sources, months of tasting and testing to find the right percentages of wines to reach the intended goals for the blend.

## **Ingredients & Additions**

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and Petit Verdot grapes, yeast, organic and inorganic yeast nutrients, tartaric acid, French oak, and 35 ppm of Free SO<sub>2</sub>.



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