



This is a salute to the Saboteurs!

The Anarchists. The Revolutionaries. To those who break the rules and defy the status quo. The Craftsmen. The Artists. The Pioneers. Those who do not bow down and conform; nor blindly accept. Those whose passion bleeds through their art. The Pioneers who forge ahead with insight, wisdom and vision, challenging the norm and questioning convention. Those who are driven by their knowledge and their belief in a better way. Those who stand up to be counted! Luddites, fight your cause, provoke, remonstrate, interrogate. Be true to yourselves, your art, your craft. Lead the way.

Unite! - Saluez Le Saboteur!

Saboteur 2016 Red Blend

2016 is the second year of very dry and warm weather which reflects in the earlier picking dates. This produced very ripe fruit with big fruit flavours. For the first time since 2012, the Cabernet Sauvignon is more dominant than the Mourvèdre and this shows in the overall structure and complexity of the wine. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Mourvèdre were fermented in small batches in open bins with regular hand punch downs. The larger Shiraz batches were fermented in stainless steel tanks with regular pump overs. All the components were pressed directly into barrel and allowed to mature with some fermentation lees. Some of the batches did malolactic fermentation in barrel which gives a fuller mouth feel and structure. This vintage was only in barrel for 12 months with 30% new French Oak. All the components were aged separately.

During the blending process, great care was taken to follow the house style of Saboteur, which is increasingly building up a huge following, i.e. bold fruit, good spice and soft tannins. The blend this year has a larger portion of Cabernet Sauvignon than ever before. The blend comprises of 54% Shiraz, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Mourvèdre.

Grapes were sourced from seven vineyards:

Walker Bay, Ou Meul Shiraz harvested on 9th February 2016

Walker Bay, Ou Meul Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 15th February 2016

Bot River, Stuart Vineyards Shiraz harvested on 19th February 2016

Bot River, Luddite young block Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 23rd February 2016

Bot River, Luddite young block Mourvèdre harvested on 23rd February 2016

Bot River, Gabriëlskloof Cabernet Sauvignon harvested on 3rd March 2016

Bot River, Gabriëlskloof clone 9C Shiraz harvested 9th March 2016

Average analysis of fruit at harvest

24.6° Balling, TA – 6.2 g/l, pH – 3.42

Tasting Notes

Appearance: Dark red and full colour to the edge.

Nose: All spice and brewing dark fruit. Overall warm fuzzy decadent feel which draws one in.

Palate: Dark juicy fruit on entry. Broad spicy cherries and dark fruit with a decadent mid palate with hints of cassis and dry, well balanced soft tannins.

Analysis of the wine

Alcohol: 14.78% pH: 3.53 TA: 5.4 g/l RS: 1.8 g/l

32 840 bottles of this vintage were produced (24 880 cork, 7 460 crown cap & 500 magnums)