



Mother Rock

2024

'LIQUID SKIN'

Chenin Blanc | *Swartland - South Africa*



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN



ZERO/ZERO

Stats

Grapes: 100% Chenin Blanc

Vineyard: Waterval Vineyard on the Paardeberg Mountain – farmed by Franziska Wickens

Vine Age: 35-years-old

Soil Type: Decomposed granitic sand intermixed with fractured clay

Viticulture: Practicing Organic – dry-farmed

Fermentation: Native – open top in stainless steel (100% whole-bunch - 10 days of pidgeage)

Skin Contact: 22 weeks post-fermentation

Aging: 12 months in 16hL concrete egg

Alcohol: 13%

pH: 3.23

Total Acidity: 6.3 g/L

Total SO₂: None added

Total Production: 223 cases

About

'Liquid Skin' is the same wine as 'Kweperfontein' – except it sees 155 days of skin contact. All the grapes are grown from one single vineyard on the Paardeberg Mountain, south of Malmesbury. The vineyard is owned by Barry Schreiber and farmed by his daughter Franziska Wickens, whose husband Jasper produces the Swerver Wines from the same vineyard. A small handful of other producers, notably John Seccombe, of Thorne & Daughters, source fruit here. The bush vine vineyard was planted in 1984, and has been dry farmed since its planting. As of 2014 the vineyard has been farmed fully organically with no chemicals sprayed on the vines and soil. The soils are a mixture of decomposed granite and clay with south-west facing slope on altitude of 920 feet.

The fruit was handpicked Stompie's palate looking for really bright acidity and structure. The fruit was whole-bunch fermented with light foot stomping to get the juice flowing and daily punchdowns for the first ten days of fermentation. In total, the wine spent 155 days (about 22 weeks) on the skins during aging in concrete. It was then pressed, racked, and bottled. No fining, no filtering, and no sulfur.

Tasting Note

Deep golden orange. It smells like orange zest, honey, and chamomile, and the liquid is electric and alive. Layers of stone fruits and minerality make this a serious, structured wine that is also immediately drinkable.

Reviews

The WineMag | 93 points