



Ochota Barrels

2020

'WHERE'S THE POPE?'

Syrah | McLaren Vale - Australia



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Syrah

Vineyard: The Green Room Vineyard

Vine Age: 24-years-old

Soil Type: Red loamy clay with ironstone over shallow limestone and heavy schist

Viticulture: Certified Organic

Fermentation: Native – 100% whole-cluster

Skin Contact: 5 days

Aging: 4 months in seasoned French barrique

pH: 3.56

Total Acidity: 5.7 g/L

Total SO2: 50 ppm

Total Production: 348 cases

Reviews

James Suckling | 93 points

About

'Where's the Pope?' – a pioneering thrash/hardcore band from 'Radelaide'. "Where's the Pope?" – a pioneering response to the queen m-f of a harvest in 2020, but the Vale was spared and produced some of the most sumptuous fruit. Taras didn't have any Adelaide Hills Syrah to play with in 2020 as it was pretty much all smoke tainted or the vineyards were destroyed so he had an idea (and they were always good ones...), why not take the Syrah from the insane 'Green Room' site? In most year's past Taras would have blended a bit of it into the Grenache but starting in 2019 he left the Syrah out of it and continued that tradition in 2020. Whole-cluster, zero spray Onkaparinga Syrah made with the most gentle touch Taras had ever put on these tiny Syrah clusters. It is 'Price of Silence' aromatics and 'Green Room' texture but made with Syrah. Sadly, this was the first and only vintage that Taras was able to produce.

The fruit was hand-picked in early February and entirely native whole-bunch fermented outdoors in open top half-ton bins.

Tasting Note

"Clove and spiced blood orange basted in the elaborate flavours rustic bouillon. There is an ebb and flow of white sage, peppercorn and bay leaf, but ultimately this potion is awash with lashings of freshly picked fingerstaining dewberry, raspberry coulis, black forest cherries and suede. (yes....suede!!) keep that mind alive pussysausage.

All the while a composition of plush supple turkish coffee grind-like tannins softly poise themselves with embrace, anchored in red line acidity He in that unmistakable savoury finish in a tailored suit....she the epitome of supple yet vivacious nervous energy.

They held hands.....and fell into it.....like a daydream.....or a fever.....the sky was on fire.....hallucinogen chromatickiss me.....you're beautiful."

(this was written when I was high drinking a bottle of this wine)

– Taras Ochota