



Thistle & Weed

2021

'IN PIECES'

Chenin Blanc | *Western Cape - South Africa*



NATURAL



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 95% Chenin Blanc - 5% Palomino

Vineyard: Chenin Blanc: Nietvoorbij Farm (Stellenbosch) - Agnes Vineyard (Paarl) - Uitvlug Farm (Swartland) - Palomino: Bergendal Farm (Piekenierskloof)

Vine Age: Average: 25-years-old

Soil Type: Varied: Granitic, sandstone, and shale derivative

Viticulture: Sustainable – dry-farmed

Fermentation: Native – seasoned French barrique

Aging: 10 months in seasoned French barrique

Alcohol: 13%

pH: 3.52

Total Acidity: 4.5 g/L

Total SO₂: 133 ppm

Total Production: 167 cases

About

'In Pieces' is a reference to picking up the pieces after the calamity of 2020. On one of his routine wanderings through the vineyards, Etienne found antique pottery shards strewn about, probably emerging after a vineyard plowing. It was like discovering a little treasure, something from the past which catches your eye, a touch of blue and white to remind them of the history of their land. It gave Stephanie and Etienne a renewed sense of place, and an appreciation for the hands that have tended to the vines and crops there for generations. The shards on the label are images of the actual shards they found.

The grapes were brought into the cellar and pressed immediately into old French oak (fourth fill and older). Fermentation occurred spontaneously, after which the wines remained in the barrels for 10 months of aging. At this point the wine was racked off the lees, and a small blend of Palomino was added to the Chenin Blanc. The wine was bottled without fining or filtering and with a small sulfur addition.

Tasting Note

On the nose, there is gentle oak and a slew of tropical fruits. The acidity provides lift on the medium bodied palate; citrus flavors abound. On the mouthwatering finish, there is a hint of brioche.