



WINE:

2013 SOLARI

CLASSIFICATION:

LARKMEAD

PRODUCTION:

945 CASES

VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

100% CABERNET SAUVIGNON

SOIL PROFILE:

CORTINA (GRAVEL)
PLEASANTON LOAM (CLAY)

ALCOHOL:

14.9%

FRENCH OAK AGING:

20 MONTHS, 70% NEW
TONELLERIES DEMPTOS & SYLVAIN

TASTING NOTES:

SOLARI IS A WINE THAT NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION. WE CANNOT THINK OF A WINE IN THE PORTFOLIO THAT HAS PROVIDED MORE ENTHUSIASM ON RELEASE OR EXCITEMENT IN THE GLASS THAN SOLARI. CONSISTENTLY SINCE 2007, SOLARI HAS BEEN PRODUCED FROM ONE SINGLE PARCEL OF CABERNET – A MERE THIRTEEN-YEAR OLD VINES, PLANTED ATOP A BLENDED SOIL STRUCTURE THAT GIVES SOLARI ITS GRACE AND ITS POWER; THE GRAVEL PROVIDES THE HIGH-TONE RED AND BLUE FRUIT AROMAS WHILE THE CLAY SOILS GIVE SOLARI A DEEPER, RICHER HUE IN ITS PERFUME. THESE CHARACTERISTICS TRAVEL ACROSS THE PALATE WITH INCREDIBLE MOMENTUM AND GRAVITAS. AND FOR THESE REASONS, YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT, SOLARI STANDS AS CANDIDATE FOR WINE OF THE VINTAGE. FROM THE FIRST GLASS ON RELEASE THE WINE'S AROMAS ARE DARK AND BROODING; WOUND TIGHT AND SLOW TO EVOLVE. BUT AS THE WINE OPENS WITH AIR, PURPLE FLOWER NOTES LEAD, FOLLOWED BY BRAMBLE OVER HINTS OF SCORCHED EARTH. IN THE MOUTH, THE CORE OF THIS WINE DOESN'T LIVE IN THE MID-PALATE, BUT ACROSS THE ENTIRE PALATE WITHOUT LOOSENING ITS FOCUS. THERE IS NOT ONE SINGULAR NOTE OR FLAVOR OUT OF PLACE IN THIS DENSELY PACKED, MUSCULAR WINE WHOSE TANNINS ARE BEING PUSHED OUT ON THE PALATE BECAUSE OF THE RICHNESS OF THE BLUE AND BLACK FRUIT CORE.

DRINKING WINDOW:

WITHOUT HESITATION, THIS WINE NEEDS TO BE DECANTED UPON RELEASE BUT THAT IS NOT EVEN GOING TO GUARANTEE THE WINE WILL OPEN UP. THE 2013 SOLARI IS A PROFOUND WINE THAT NEEDS TO BE REVISITED A DECADE FROM NOW BEFORE CONSIDERING ITS DRINKING WINDOW. THIS WINE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO AGE FOR HALF A CENTURY AND STILL BRING AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF PLEASURE IN THE GLASS.


-DAN PETROSKI, WINEMAKER

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