



2016 Cochon Old Vine Rose, California (900 Cases Produced)

(40% Cinsault, 30% Mourvedre, 20% Carignane, 10% Grenache)

Vineyards: In our quest to make world class Rose, we added a new vineyard source in 2011. 130+ year-old bush vine Cinsault from Bechthold Vineyard planted in 1886 from central Lodi, managed by Kevin Phillips. Sandy soils and micro yielding vines produce fruit with incredible purity and finesse. This extraordinary fruit now makes up the core and backbone of our Rose. We source over 100+ year Old Vine Mourvedre from deep sandy soils in Contra Costa County and rounding out the blend is the Bartolomei Brothers Vineyard of Old Vine Carignane and Grenache, planted in the late 1940's in Ukiah on Mendocino's Talmage Bench. We thought this vineyard was a perfect partner for the Old Vine Cinsault. We discovered these gnarly, twisted old hillside vines when we made a wrong turn one day, that fortuitous fork in the road led us to purchasing some of their beautiful Old Vine fruit for our Rose.

Winemaking: The old Cinsault vines at Bechthold produce a wine with such purity and focus we decided to let their true spirit come through. Using minimal intervention and whole cluster pressing of the grapes prior to native yeast fermentation. We applied the same techniques for the old vine Mourvedre, Carignane and Grenache, keeping all three lots separate till a final blend was put together just prior to bottling. Gently whole cluster pressing the grapes insures no extraction of harsh flavors or tannins from the skins and seeds. The juice was then transferred to small stainless steel tanks for primary fermentation at 50 degrees lasting about 4 weeks. After fermentation the wines were racked to neutral 300 liter French oak Hogsheads, or "Hogs", as they are lovingly referred to, and the reason we call the wine Cochon, the French word for Hog, to age for two months before being racked back to tank and bottled.

The Wine: Displays a vibrant, delicate pale peach, salmon color, aromatic intensity and complexity, yet simply pure and refreshing. Inviting aromas of stone fruits, citrus blossom, wild berry and ruby grapefruit. Light to medium bodied in weight, showing plenty of finesse with a soft, rounded silky texture. The flavors are bright and focused, the white peach, strawberry and grapefruit are complemented by hints of mineral. The bright, fresh flavors persist to a crisp, lively and mouthwatering finish.

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