



d'Arenberg

THE SWINGING MALAYSIAN

Single Vineyard Shiraz 2012

McLaren Vale, Shiraz (100%)



The Name

Purchased in an era of free love, this vineyard has also done its fair share of swinging! First planted to shiraz in the 70s, it was grafted to Riesling, but was returned to its origins in 2001. Imported vineyard posts from Malaysia were trialled here but were too weak and had to be replaced.

The Vintage

A wet summer and winter in 2011 set the vines up perfectly for the 2012 vintage. Spring and summer were drier than normal, resulting in lower fruit yields. A small heat burst just prior to veraison assured a solid colour change, small berries and pronounced tannins in the grapes. The red wines from this vintage are black, solid and quite structured, the biggest year for some time; not oily but definitely gutsy.

The Winemaking

Small batches of grapes are crushed gently and then transferred to five tonne headed down open fermenters. These batches remain separate until final blending. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation. The wine is then basket pressed and transferred to a mixture of new and used French and old American oak barriques to complete fermentation. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, there is no racking until final blending and no fining or filtration.

The Characteristics

An incredibly spicy, exotic expression of McLaren Vale Shiraz. The bouquet leaps from the glass, a wonderful infusion of star anise, pepper, cinnamon, and clove adding aromatic complexity to the more typical plum, mulberry and blackberry notes. The palate also offers an enticing array of sweet and savoury flavours. The mix of fruit and Asian spice marrying to produce a spiced plum effect but with an underlying raspberry lift. The mouthfeel has a pleasant mid weighted nature to it that sits in harmony with the medium strength mineral tannins. Balance and complexity.



Harvest dates	26 Feb - 1 Mar	Alcohol	15.1%
Residual sugar	1.3 g/l	Titrateable acid	7.1
pH	3.48	Oak maturation	20 months
Chief Winemaker	Chester Osborn	Senior Winemaker	Jack Walton