bier

FRANS K SMIT 2008 41% Cabernet Sauvignon / 23% Merlot / 18% Pinotage / 18% Shiraz

WINEMAKER:

Frans Smit

ORIGIN: Coastal origin

TERROIR / SOIL:

Stellenbosch and Darling Decomposed granite soils and Malmesbury skalie

VINEYARD AND CLIMATE CONDITIONS:

Average daily temperatures in the winter $10/17^{\circ}$ C; Summer $14/28^{\circ}$ C with annual rainfall of 450mm. The vineyards selected for this wine are all planted on vertical trellis systems ranging from 9 - 11 years old at harvest. Very low yields were maintained to lead to concentrated fruit.

WINEMAKING:

Grapes were hand harvested, de-stemmed and hand sorted to ensure only healthy and well coloured grapes were selected. Fermentation was done in open top oak fermenters with the old custom of punch down to extract color. The wine was barreled in new French oak barrels for 30 months before racking. No fining was done on the wine and little human influence.

ANALYSIS:

Alc:	14.5 %	TA:	6.20 g/L
RS:	2.3 g/L	pH:	3.73

APPEARANCE:

Dark red with youthful edge.

TASTING NOTE:

Concentrated flavours of dark cherry, cassis and sweet spice dominates the first impressions of this wine. It opens up to more subtle flavours of fennel, mulberry and slight hint of strawberry. The dense tannin structure and acid balance shows great potential for ageing and is a true reflection of the vintage – cool, subtle and fresh.

SERVE WITH:

Decant for 2 hours at 12°C and let it gradually warm up to 16°C. This wine is perfectly paired with hearty stews and complex slow cooked foods. This will bring out both the flavor of the food and will soften the wine, showing more fruit and youth.

