

LE ARTISHASIC

PURPOSE: Le Artishasic crafts high quality, handmade, site driven wines from California. Our mission is to make delicious, well balanced, food friendly wines. We source pristine fruit, farmed by experienced and passionate small family growers. Winemaking principles are attention to detail and minimal intervention. California terroir is diverse. There is an abundance of unique grape varieties and microclimates. We aim to capture vineyard character and vintage expression in your glass every time.

The name, Le Artishasic, is derived from a combination of my son's, wife's, and daughter's names (Artie III, Shannon, Sicily). I strive to honor them daily, with a hands on approach to the entire process, from grape growing, to winemaking, to client services.

"...wine for serious wine drinkers...highly aromatic...aging in seasoned barrels contributes additional complexity on the nose and the wines really sing on the palate...mouthfeel with precise weight and texture...juicy finishes...bright acidity...make these wines complete and highly refined..."



2017 SYRAH

Lagier Meredith Family Vineyard, Mt. Veeder, Napa, CA

Steve Lagier & Carole Meredith have over 48 years of experience farming in the Napa valley, between the two of them. Their family vineyard hosts 6 clones from 2.5 acres of top quality Syrah. Steve spent 14 years on the Robert Mondavi Winemaking Team, while Carole was a professor of grapevine genetics at UC Davis for 23 years, before turning their attention to developing their own family property. Aromas of freshly cracked black pepper, fresh tobacco leaves & lardons, complement a palate of rich fruit flavors and well integrated tannins.

(Peposo Stew, Sautéed Wild Mushrooms, Roasted Root Vegetables with Sage) **56 Cases Made**

\$85 PER BOTTLE

Winemaker's Small Lot Blend, North Coast, CA

When structured flavors of Napa Valley Syrah, meet delicate aromas of Sonoma Syrah, the end result is a wine of great complexity and flavor. This North Coast Syrah is composed of an array of small lots that bring new world and old world characteristics together. This is a wine of power and finesse, designed for long ageability in the cellar. Aromas of Black Olive, Espresso, & Leather complement a palate of complex dark fruit flavors and long tannin structure.

(Rack of Venison, Morcilla, Grilled Chicken w/ Herbes De Provence)

55 Cases Made

\$125 PER BOTTLE



2018 CHARDONNAY

"La Terre", Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast, CA

The Sonoma Coast AVA is currently producing some of the most balanced and precise Chardonnays in America. This region's cool climate, diverse soil types, and long growing season, allow grape growers and winemakers to craft lively Chardonnays that do not subject themselves to traditional "Heavy American Chardonnay" clichés. This wine is composed of two unique vineyard sources. One is closer to the Pacific Ocean, bringing its salty, briny, & lifted freshness to the blend. The other is more inland, providing supple ripeness, density, and complexity. Blending barrels from these two sites reveals what we love about traditional "American Chardonnay", which is texture, and also includes what we are often longing for, acidity. After all, the greatest Chardonnays in the world walk the delicate tightrope of richness versus weightlessness.

Flavors of Meyer Lemon, Brioche, Candied Ginger, & Sea Salt are enhanced by aromas of Candied Ginger & Kaffir Lime.

(Alaskan King Crab, Dover Sole, Truffled Grilled Cheese)

111 Cases Made

"La Mer", Chardonnay, Sta. Rita Hills, CA

The Sta. Rita Hills AVA, influenced by the Pacific Ocean's marine layer and cold afternoon ocean breezes, makes it one of the most exciting AVAs for Chardonnay in the country. This region of Southern California is known for its unique relationship to the cold microclimate of the Pacific Ocean, the only area in the country where the mountain ranges run east to west, versus north to south. This phenomenon allows for cold ocean breezes to rush into the vineyards nightly, influencing and helping to maintain acidity in the grapes. Extended growing seasons, through the presence of cooler weather, allow longer hang time for the grapes, thus promoting more opulent and developed textures in the wine. The success of projects such as Tyler, Chanin, & Domaine De La Cote have shined a bright light on this region and its tendency to produce well balanced Chardonnays.

Flavors of Lemon Meringue, Honey Dew Melon, & Bananas Fosteres are balanced by aromas of Mandarin Orange, Yuzu, Lychee, & White Peach.

(Florida Stone Crab, Langoustines, Foi Gras Terrine)

59 Cases Made

\$85 PER BOTTLE

2018 ROSÉ

Rosé of GSM, Shake Ridge Vineyard, Sierra Foothills, CA

Grower Ann Kraemer showcases her 25 years of experience when immaculate bins of Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvedre arrive to the crush pad. This marks the 4th vintage of this single vineyard expression for Le Artishasic.

Precise minerality on the finish is representative of the quartz crystal that dominates the diverse soil of this site. To this day, Shake Ridge Vineyard is the best representation, in terms of vineyard quality, specific to these Rhone varieties, grown in California.

(Kumamoto Oysters, Loch Duart Salmon, Burratina)

180 Cases Made

\$45 PER BOTTLE



2015 CARIGNAN

Carignan is a unique red grape variety of Spanish origin that is more commonly found in French wine, but is widely planted throughout the western Mediterranean, and around the globe. This late ripening variety develops silky tannins while maintaining balanced acidity. Le Artishasic Old Vine Carignan is elegant and layered, with fine grained tannins, bright acidity and a long complex finish. Aromatics of violet, rose petal, and baking spices, complement a palate of cranberry, black cherry, and licorice.

WINEMAKING: 70 year old Carignan grapes are de-stemmed and cold soaked for seven days. Low temperature fermentations begin in small tanks and bins, preserving soft and delicate aromatics. Gentle punch downs incorporate skins to intensify color and flavor. The wine is then aged for 30 months in seasoned French Oak barrels, to promote natural aromas and flavors, over oak impact. This project is a collaboration with experienced Napa winemaker, Aaron Buoncristiani.

70 Year Old Vine Carignan, Vincenzo Vineyard, Redwood Valley, CA

Grower Steve Graziano's "bisnonno" or great grandfather in English, planted this vineyard over 70 years ago. These were some of the first vineyards planted by this Italian family in Northern California, over four generations ago. Vincenzo vineyard is dry farmed and only yields two tons of grapes per acre. Roots go 30-40 feet down in sandy loam soils to search for water. We have selected the highest elevated section of this vineyard, providing even more prominent drainage for these old vines. (Black Truffle Risotto, Peking Duck)

154 Cases Made

\$85 PER BOTTLE



Artie Johnson '95: Winemaker



Artie Johnson's '95 career in the food and wine industry has taken him across the United States- Houston, Austin, New York City, Miami Beach - and now Napa Valley - producing his own wine, Le Artishasic.

His wife, Shannon, "convinced me to move to Napa and encouraged me to start my own brand". Shannon, along with her mother and father, are the founders and operators of Staglin Family Vineyard. Artie and Shannon first met in 2013 while Artie was working as a Wine Director for hotels and restaurants in Miami. She was representing her family's wines and invited Artie to a small luncheon she was hosting, as a guest. Life became very busy after that encounter! They were engaged in 2014, married at the Staglin Family estate in 2015 and started their family in 2016. Daughter Sicily, was born in 2016 and named after their honeymoon location and son Arthur III arrived in 2017.

"Le Artishasic is a small production brand I started in 2015, focusing on single vineyard Rose, Chardonnay and Syrah from special vineyard sites in Northern California. The goal is to make balanced wines in the old world style, while displaying beautiful California fruit. The name is a combination of my son, wife, and daughters names (Artie, Shannon, Sicily). Almost 100% of my wines are sold directly to clients I have met over the years, in addition to being featured in local Napa restaurants such as Bouchon, Meadowood and The French Laundry. I am happy to add any Kinkaid alumni to the mailing list (winexyz@gmail.com) It is truly a privilege to make wine and farm vineyards as a profession."

Along the way, Artie feels "I've been fortunate to have some of the greatest mentors over the past 20 years. Parents, teachers, coaches, alumni and industry professionals. They push me to grow, and I can trust their unbiased guidance when it comes to tough personal and professional decisions." He fondly remembers the former **Headmaster Glenn Ballard**. "He took special interest in my sister, **Katina '91**, and me as student-athletes. He was a gentleman, a scholar and an all around nice man." Artie was an outstanding athlete on the Kinkaid baseball and basketball teams and thinks often of the camaraderie he shared with his teammates. Artie played center field for the Longhorn baseball team, for coaches Cliff Gustafson and late

Augie Garrido and graduated from The McCombs School of Business at The University of Texas.

As for the Kinkaid Class of 1995 - "We had a blast!" Interestingly, the one valuable skill Artie still is grateful for is writing. "I miss writing as much as I did at Kinkaid. Writing is such an important way to express yourself. I feel like the computer/internet age has suppressed some of our creativity when it comes to writing. I hope today's Kinkaid students take the time to write, be still, be creative and express themselves freely."

Being a student at Kinkaid was a pivotal time in his life. "Kinkaid taught me that it is very important to be a "thinker". The curriculum was challenging, elevated and diverse. I also met a host of extremely intelligent classmates. The competitive environment forces you to realize that there are a lot of talented students out there, and if you are going to be one of them, you have to become more serious about your future. There is no doubt that Kinkaid successfully prepares you for the academic expectations of the collegiate level."

With his many accomplishments, Artie says, "I am most proud of becoming a husband and father. Both have taught me to be humble, accountable, loving, patient and joyful. All of the success in the world means nothing to me without the happiness of my family. I've had to learn to balance, career, aspirations, friendships, marriage, fatherhood, aging parents, spiritual growth and expectations."

Besides making wine, Artie, first and foremost, is a family man. "I mostly enjoy watching my children grow up, and seeing my wife blossom into an amazing woman. Traveling is always a great privilege. A recent trip to Cuba with my wife reminded me how blessed we are to live in the United States." He also devotes time for a special cause that is close to the family's heart. "I've learned about philanthropy through my wife's family's foundation, One Mind. My brother in law, Brandon Staglin, lives a spectacular life with schizophrenia, so I have taken a special interest in brain health, mental health, and one's ability to live a fulfilled life with these challenges."

This Kinkaid alumnus knows "the goal is not only to become "successful", but to be fulfilled in ones profession." Artie Johnson is doing just that!



Artie with wife Shannon and children Arthur III and Sicily

Kinkaid taught me that it is very important to be a "thinker". The curriculum was challenging, elevated and diverse.