POINT & LINE[®] 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon

Technical Data

Source, Appellation - Tommy Town Vineyard, Los Olivos District, Santa Ynez Valley Composition - 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12.5% Merlot, 12.5% Cabernet Franc Harvest - 24.0° brix Me/CF on October 16, CS 25.2° brix on October 26 Élevage - 18 months in barrel. Racked twice prior to bottling. Cooperage - 40% new Leroi 225L, 60% neutral Seguin-Moreau 228L. Bottling - 291 cases on April 28, 2020 TA - 5.81 g/L pH - 3.77 ABV - 14.64%

Production and Bottle Notes

Our first bottling of Cabernet represents a terrific composite of what's becoming a known commodity from the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara appellation -- Cabernets have taken an equal billing alongside Sauvignon Blanc from the Eastern section of the county. The growing season for 2018 was extended and rather accommodating, with moderate summer and early fall weather after a rather hot July.

Sampling fruit while walking some of the ribbon-like vineyards throughout Tommy Town Vineyards was a delight in 2018. The property boasts various cultivars, micro-climates, slope, and vine density. Weather was simply great and extended hang time was available for multiple picks of the vineyard blocks. We chose to harvest and co-ferment the Merlot and Cabernet Franc on the same morning. The Cabernet Sauvignon phenolics continued to develop beautifully and that fruit was finally brought in ten days later. The wine was consolidated at second racking eight months prior to bottling. Tasting the steady development and maturation of the wine initially in barrel and periodically in bottle has been rewarding.

The final blend is opulent and contains an equal percentage of Merlot and Cabernet Franc to complement the featured varietal. Brambly blackberry, plum, and cherry aromatics are deepened with earthy notes of caramel and cocoa. The lush blue and black fruit notes continue on the palate, where silky tannins and sneaky acidity match the generous new French oak barrel regime. With aeration, notes of tobacco, anise, peppercorn and cake spices support a rich, long finish.