

2020 BARBERA LODI APPELLATION

Barbera is awesome. I really can't summarize it better than that. It's one of those slightly finicky grapes to farm and make wine from, but every expression of the fruit is just that, expressive! If it's picked under ripe, the intense sour red cherry acidity pulls front and center. Over ripe and it still retains acid balance but delivers bigtime in body, black fruits, and sweet cigarbox savorness. For 2020, we were certainly on the ripe end of the vintage, landing with big alcohol and big fruit. As big as this wine is, it's also perfectly balanced on the razor's edge of expressive fruit and a lushious drinkable body texture.

Enjoy enticing aromas of ripe dark cherry with hints of toffee that lend itself to the moderate tannins mid palate. The savory yet sweet flavors of blueberry, vanilla, and toasted oak are balanced by a light spice and silky smooth finish.

2020 CABERNET FRANC LODI APPELLATION

This was my first round of winemaking with Cabernet Franc, but I knew from research that we needed to get the fruit good and ripe to avoid excessive Pyrazine (the compounds that smells like green pepper or jalapeno). Some green aromas are part of the appeal of Cabernet Fran so balance was the key - luckily we hit the mark on pick point. The grapes came in with just a scattering of red fruit punching up the acidity. We destemmed and moved it to small macro bins for a long, cool ferment. Post ferment, the wine aged in a mix of French and American oak for 20 months.

Beautiful soft aromas of red cherry, plum and harvest spice linger on the nose, leading to softly sweet aromatics of toasted oak, cedar and pipe tobacco. On the palate, the wine pops with black fruits, dried strawberry, and jam leaving lingering bold, yet soft tannins and firm acidity wrapped in hints of dark fruit, chocolate, and gentle wafts of licorice.

THE GENTLEMAN V7 LODI APPELLATION

Consistently one of my favorite red blends that we make. The Gentleman is such a balanced and very complex, layered wine. You'll notice that we typically don't vintage date this wine. This allows us to pull wines from older (and often younger) vintages to build a blend of this kind of depth. The varietals also shift slightly from year to year, but almost always circle around my favorite Italian varietals: Sangiovese, Barbera and Nebbiolo. These complex varietals build the backbone and layered structure, allowing me to pull a thread of consistency from blend to blend.

Intense, bright notes of blueberry and red cherry envelop your senses as they intertwine with flavors of light oak, vanilla, and sweet tobacco. Grippy tannins linger on your palate and soften into a velvety smooth finish.

2019 SYRAH ESTATE VINEYARD

Learning to manage this older head pruned Syrah vineyard was an interesting experience. We experimented with more aggressive pruning, shoot thinning and modifying irrigation. No matter what we did, the vines only produced a handful of intense and small clusters of fruit.

In 2019 the grapes went from just getting ripe to very ripe in the blink of an eye. We immediately picked and destemmed the fruit to small macro bins, reserving a small portion for rosé and another for native fermentation. From the entire lot, we blended across for the ultimate expression of the vineyard.

Our work resulted in a wine that has brambly boysenberry and blackberry, with a touch of cocoa developing into layers of cherry cola and beautiful floral aromas. Bold ripe fruits on the palate, balanced with smooth tannins and fresh acidity, finish with toasted oak and hints of leather.

WINE INFORMATION

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| PRODUCTION: 230 cases | |
| BARREL AGING: | 20 months in Medium and Medium Plus American Oak |
| HARVEST BRIX: | 26° PH: 3.83 |
| ALCOHOL: | 16.1% TA: 5.9 g/l |
| RELEASE DATE: | 01/29/23 R.S.: 3.6 g/l |
| BLEND: | 100% Barbera |
| ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS: | |

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WINE INFORMATION

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| PRODUCTION: 214 cases | |
| BARREL AGING: | 20 months in Medium & Medium Plus American and French Oak |
| HARVEST BRIX: | 25° PH: 3.54 |
| ALCOHOL: | 15.3% TA: 6.3 g/l |
| RELEASE DATE: | 01/29/23 R.S.: 2.8 g/l |
| BLEND: | 100% Cabernet Franc |
| ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS: | |

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WINE INFORMATION

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| PRODUCTION: 292 cases | |
| BARREL AGING: | 20 months in Medium & Medium Plus American and French Oak |
| HARVEST BRIX: | 24-26° PH: 3.77 |
| ALCOHOL: | 15.5% TA: 5.9 g/l |
| RELEASE DATE: | 01/29/23 R.S.: 2.5 g/l |
| BLEND: | 33% Sangiovese, 25% Barbera, 9% Nebbiolo, 25% Montepulciano, 8% Primitivo |
| ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS: | |

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WINE INFORMATION

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| PRODUCTION: 231 cases | |
| BARREL AGING: | 27 months in Medium & Medium Plus American Oak |
| HARVEST BRIX: | 25° PH: 3.84 |
| ALCOHOL: | 14.3% TA: 6.1 g/l |
| RELEASE DATE: | 11/1/22 R.S.: 2 g/l |
| BLEND: | 100% Syrah |
| ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS: | |

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2019 SYRAH ESTATE VINEYARD

Back in 2019, Choral and I purchased a vineyard perched up on the edge of the Mokelumne river with plans to build our future winery at that location. Fast forward through design, planning and the pandemic, the costs of building became prohibitive. In the mean time, we stumbled upon our current winery in Lockeford and the match was made. With a facility and vineyard onsite, we made the decision to sell our river vineyard in 2021. The lightly producing head pruned vineyard was bulldozed later that year marking this as the 2nd to last vintage from our estate river property.

From an unknown clone of Syrah (I was told Shiraz), these vines were planted about 20 years ago and unusually head trained. At almost double the size of their Zinfandel neighbors, the production was almost laughably minuscule at just under 2 tons per acre.

THE GENTLEMAN V7 LODI APPELLATION

Out on the far edge of the sprawling Lodi Appellation sits the Clements hills. This area is scattered with old low foothills of alluvial wash over the top of many feet of cobblestones. It's one of the most scenic sub appellations with small hills rising and falling into sharp valleys.

Perched upon one of those hills is a small vineyard composed of a handful of Italian grape varieties. This is where our Sangiovese, Nebbiolo & Montepulciano grows. Fast draining rugged soils and great sun exposure yield intense and complex wines.

This new vineyard combined with our existing favorite Barbera from Lodi produces a powerful palate of wines to build The Gentleman from.

2020 CABERNET FRANC LODI APPELLATION

With limited experience working with Cabernet Franc, I wasn't exactly sure what to expect from this Bordeaux varietal. The vineyard itself was planted over 20 years ago in a mix of Orange Muscat, Alicante Bouchet, Sauvignon Blanc & Syrah. I vividly remember my winemaking friend telling me about a new vineyard he had contracted to plant a series of unique varieties on - this one. How quickly the years go by and that young vineyard is now getting on in age. This planting is a bi-lateral with 2 arms extending out horizontally from the vine. The fruit bearing "canes" are vertically positioned, meaning that the grower tucks the lanky canes of the vine up and over a wire a foot or so above the vine's large branches. This creates an open fruiting zone exposing the fruit to more air flow and sunlight. Particularly with some of these varieties prone to "green pepper" aromas this additional exposure helps to aid ripening, color formation and reduce green notes.

2020 BARBERA LODI APPELLATION

We always anticipate the delivery of the Barbera fruit with a mix of excitement and trepidation towards sorting the ice cold fruit from the tiny leaves scattered throughout. Numb fingers and sticky arms are the norm for those cold October mornings.

Leland Noma provided us with our very first vintage back in 2010 and offered us a 1/2 ton of Barbera. He said "If you sell it, pay me. If it doesn't work, don't worry about it." From the first year working with that 1/2 ton, we've grown the program to well over 10 tons.

One of four original 1978 trial plantings of Barbera in the Lodi appellation, his field has become one of my favorites to work with. It sits in deep sandy soil in the south section of Lodi that requires a deft hand to maintain good water balance, yet yields consistently ripe and balanced fruit year after year.

| VINEYARD INFORMATION | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| GROWER: | Jeremy Trettevik |
| ACRES: | About 11 acres |
| APPELLATION: | Lodi - Mokelumne River |
| ELEVATION: | 92 ft |
| AVERAGE HARVEST DATE: | September 2019 |
| VARIETALS: | Syrah |

| VINEYARD INFORMATION | |
|-----------------------|---|
| GROWER: | Mixed Growers |
| ACRES: | 1-20 |
| APPELLATION: | Lodi & Amador Country |
| ELEVATION: | 25-2300 ft |
| AVERAGE HARVEST DATE: | September-October |
| VARIETALS: | 33% Sangiovese, 25% Barbera, 9% Nebbiolo, 25% Montepulciano, 8% Primitivo |

| VINEYARD INFORMATION | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| GROWER: | RNR Vineyards |
| ACRES: | 6 acres |
| APPELLATION: | Lodi |
| ELEVATION: | 58 ft |
| AVERAGE HARVEST DATE: | October 2020 |
| VARIETALS: | Cabernet Franc |

| VINEYARD INFORMATION | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| GROWER: | Leland Noma |
| ACRES: | 11 acres |
| APPELLATION: | Lodi |
| ELEVATION: | 42 ft |
| AVERAGE HARVEST DATE: | October 2020 |
| VARIETALS: | Barbera |