

# JONATA

## **FENIX 2013**

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

65% merlot, 30% cabernet franc, 5% petit verdot

75% new French oak, 25% neutral French oak | 435 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO  
*Vineyard Manager*

MATT DEES  
*Winemaker*

DREW PICKERING  
*Assistant Winemaker*

## **VINEYARD RUMINATIONS**

A vintage I'll always remember for the endless summer conditions; warm and dry day after day. In a dry vintage that was often defined by large yields, Jonata was an exception. Taking a cue from the drought conditions, we entered the vineyard blocks early and often to drop fruit from the thirsty vines. After dropping the initial yields 50% from 2 clusters/shoot to 1 cluster/shoot, we made another pass cutting the remaining cluster in half. With a mere 25% of our original yield hanging, the vines were able to ripen to a concentrated and supremely intense level without added water stress. The wines show this intensity in spades. Expansive and focused, savory and chewy. These blends represent the perfect lens through which to view the confluence of the Santa Barbara sun and the Jonata sandy soils. A perfect match.

## **ON THE WINE**

Robust and sexy. A veritable black hole of sweet black fruit and structure. Layers and layers of powdered tannins. Rose petals and cinnamon. Red licorice and dried strawberry. Soft and pillow-like mid palate attack. Immense. Supremely rich. Huge push of herb-laced bold fruit with notes of cedar. Erupts with wonderful fruit push on the finish. Cacao tannins. Salted caramel and toasty oak. Lingers with nuance of dried blueberries and charred steak.

## **ACCOLADES**

**96-99 POINTS** Jeb Dunnuck *The Wine Advocate* #220 June 2015