

JONATA

FUERZA 2012

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

100% petit verdot

75% new French oak, 25% neutral French oak | 22 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINEYARD RUMINATIONS

2012 was one of those rare vintages when both quantity and quality were very high. In a year where Mother Nature gave us a beneficially stacked deck with basically uninterrupted sunshine and warm days, I believe we played our hand perfectly at Jonata.

What appeared to be three tons per acre turned out to be six+ tons at harvest in some other vineyards. At Jonata, we decided early in the growing season to make a move toward continued quality and thus went about a very vigorous yield-thinning followed by an equally aggressive green drop at veraison. The resulting small yields gave us wines that are densely packed with fruit, but also alive with an invigorating tension. Even at an early stage, many of them were already mesmerizing.

ON THE WINE

As with the Fenix, it is such a sincere pleasure to taste this blend after a four-year hiatus—another long-lost friend. Absolutely impenetrable color in the glass hints at what is to come. Spiraling nose immediately jumps out of the glass with floral aromas and spicy black fruit. Notes of mint and very fine espresso. It is hard even to name all of the aromatic nuances: charred tri tip, mesquite, blackberry, vanilla, Chinese five spice, and green peppercorns. Pure candied blueberry on the palate. Hedonistic and surprisingly soft and generous even at this early stage. Pure fruit with very fine tannins and gorgeous echoes of peppercorn and espresso bean. I was absolutely floored by this wine.

ACCOLADES

93 POINTS Jeb Dunnuck *The Wine Advocate* #220 August 2015

95+ POINTS Antonio Galloni's *Vinous* August 2015