

JONATA

2017 LA SANGRE DE JONATA SYRAH

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

98% Syrah, 2% Viognier

338 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINYARD RUMINATIONS

A wet winter finally broke the drought in 2017. The rain was a blessing as it refreshed our soils and water quality. Conditions were peaceful and warm during budbreak and early spring. However, the cool conditions during flowering prolonged the process, led to very small clusters and resulted in miniscule yields. In many cases, we saw roughly 50% of our normal yields. It was certainly a year with some of the smallest yields and earliest harvest dates for us (with a few of the first picks coming in mid-August).

We experienced great growing conditions in June and July before a suddenly cool August. The weather changed radically again in late August and early September with heat spikes and rain events starting Labor Day and continuing to September 10th. There were also unusually humid conditions for the first half of September, but miraculously the rain skipped over our vineyards. We were able to harvest some fruit prior to the warm periods that graced our blends with freshness and structural integrity. We also harvest selected blocks after the heat had passed, giving wines with density and power. The combination of these characteristics resulted in wines of purity, balance and complexity. — Matt Dees Winemaker

ON THE WINE

Driven by a floral and powdered nose with a striking element of violets. Towering aromatics. Elderberry-like. Supple and sleek on the palate with characteristic black and blue Sangre fruit, black pepper, white truffle and an overall sense of Luxardo cherries. Finishes with freshness and a push of dark fruit that doesn't want to stop. By far the most elegant and approachable Sangre to date. No need for a decade in the cellar, but this will also certainly repay those with patience. Pop and pour today. One of the most expressive and evocative bottles we've ever produced.

— Matt Dees Winemaker

ACCOLADES

94+ POINTS Antonio Galloni *Vinous* September 2019

97 POINTS Jeb Dunnuck *jebdunnuck.com* October 2019