

# 2009 VINTAGE RESERVE, SONOMA VALLEY

## VINEYARD

- The Bundschu family's 150+year-old Rhinefarm Estate Vineyard is located on the southwest slopes of the Mayacamas Mountains, just eight miles north of San Pablo Bay.
- Terrain above 150 ft elevation is dominated by Arrowhead Mountain and features steep southwest-facing hillsides of shallow, rocky soils of volcanic ash and alluvial wash. Pervasive maritime breezes and long daylight exposure allow fruit to develop intense concentration while retaining vibrant structure. Wines grown in these hillside blocks bear the classic Sonoma Valley appellation.



- Top blocks farmed specifically for Vintage Reserve. Yield 2.5 Tons/acre.
- A small amount (less than 10%) sourced from slightly warmer, high elevation sites adds weight to the midpalate.

# Winemaking & Analyses

- Five lots selected for Vintage Reserve program hand-sorted and gravity fed to fermentation vessels.
- Five day cold soak; indigenous yeast strains. 28-32 days maceration.
- Extraction through gentle pumpovers tailored by lot, using louvers and screens to eliminate pumping skins and seeds.
- Twenty months in 100% French oak, 65% new. Thin stave, tight grain. Primary cooper: Taransaud, Ermitage and Demptos.
- 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Cabernet Franc & 6% Petit Verdot.
- 14.4% alcohol. TA 0.60g/100ml. pH 3.78
- 778 cases produced. Suggested retail price \$80. Released September 2012.

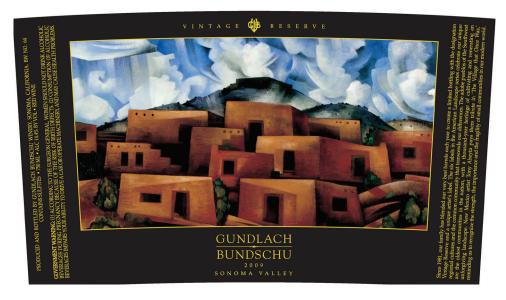
#### WINEMAKER TASTING NOTES

Each year, we craft a limited bottling from the most elegant and expressive barrels to showcase the best of the vintage. The 2009 Vintage Reserve is a powerful beauty; graceful, intense and built to last. Aromas of cassis, dark black fruit and cocoa powder are laced with violets and black spice. The dense flavors of blueberry and blackberry are clean, polished, and layered with dark chocolate, creamy espresso, star anise, graphite and mountain sage. The beautifully balanced structure gives the wine great depth and length, and ensures it will age gracefully up to 20 years from vintage.

Jeff Bundschu Sixth Generation Vintner Keith Emerson Winemaker







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#### ABOUT THE LABEL

Since 1981, we've bottled the finest expression of the vintage with the designation Vintage Reserve and a unique art series label.

In commemoration of the winery's 150th anniversary, the Bundschu family spent three weeks traveling around the United States in 2008. The experience inspired us to create a series of Vintage Reserve labels celebrating the richness of America's diverse culture, as well as the common community that transcends our differences. The 'American Landscape' series features artwork from six regional artists commissioned to embody the spirit of their community.

In 'The Village that Once Was,' artist Tony Abeyta pays tribute to the oldest communities in the nation, the pueblos of the American Southwest. He reflects on a time and place that was about connections to nature and society, evoking a sense of mystery and loss, but also of awe and inspiration.

For over 1,000 years, pueblo peoples have cultivated and venerated an unforgiving landscape. Ancient settlers thrived in small isolated villages by working together to develop knowledge, skills and culture.

In our modern era of globalization and urbanization, the stark image of an abandoned pueblo beneath an ominous sky not only celebrates our heritage and history, it reminds us to recognize the strength, the importance and the fragility of small communities in our modern world.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Tony Abeyta was raised in the small community of Gallup, NM of Navajo and Anglo descent. He creates a powerful range of contemporary paintings, and explores different mediums. His individual style incorporates bold colors, rich textures and representations of Navajo deities.

"I was raised in a small town surrounded by the Navajo and Zuni reservation, with Acoma and Laguna in my backyard. Route 66 ran through town and the railroad as well. There was always a sense that there were other places to be, and I left Gallup at 16 years old to study art in Santa Fe at the Institute of American Indian Art."

School was important, and was a license to travel to many great places. The Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore, Lacoste School of Art in southern France, SACI in Florence Italy, Chicago Art Institute, Haystack School in Maine, and finally NYU for graduate studies. Currently Tony has studios in Santa Fe and Chicago. "Living in an urban place adds an element of progressive cultural experience. In a city there is the whole discourse of cultures, thinking, music and international art. I consider myself a regionalist, accepting that much of what I do is tied to a native culture and place. I find that art is constantly moving, reinventing and affected by the changes in our culture and its great to feel part of that in some way."

More information including originals and prints available for purchase may be found at www.tonyabeytastudio.com.

