

2009 Eponymous Syrah

When the opportunity arises to make small quantities of wine from an exceptional vineyard, and work with the grower to coax the best out of the vines from such a vineyard, I have a hard time passing up the chance. This is the second vintage of Eponymous Syrah. The grapes come from a relatively young vineyard east of the town of Napa on Monticello Road and the grower is an old friend with whom I needed no persuasion to join forces.

The attractive deep purple, garnet color leads to a complexity of aromas that hint of black pepper, rosemary, and a touch of a smokey, oven roasted meat dripping character that I always look for in a good Syrah. The flavors follow nicely to the palate with added spice notes. This full-bodied wine is well balanced with good weight and grip that glides evenly across the palate finishing with pleasing flavors that linger pleasingly.

Varietal:	96% Syrah, 4% Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation:	Napa Valley
Brix @ Harvest	25.8
Oak Aging:	9 months(30% new oak. ½ French / ½ American)
Winemaker:	Bob Pepi
Alcohol:	14.4
TA(g/L)	5.1
pH:	3.58
Harvest Date:	10/7/09
Bottling Date:	8/3/10
Production:	322 12/750 cases