
TROUVÈRE ARTIST SERIES

2017 Syrah



THE BRAND As our Willamette Valley wine industry expanded and matured, it became clear that we had many prime vineyard sites, mostly growing pinot noir, that were worthy of single-vineyard status. In addition, our long-held interest in tempranillo and syrah as some of the world's best red varieties, was piqued by the vineyards in Southern Oregon's Umpqua Valley and Eastern Oregon's rugged Columbia Gorge. We created the Trouvère label to showcase small-lot, limited production wines from these dramatic AVAs.

We partnered with Santa Barbara artist Mary Heebner to launch the series. Her figurative collage titled *First Moon Passage 8*, is an abstract rendering that captures the unique personality of Southern Oregon's Umpqua Valley.

THE VINTAGE "After a few dry winters, the 2016-2017 winter provided ample rain and snowpack statewide. The winter gave way to a relatively mild spring compared to the last few years. As a result, bud break started closer to normal in mid-April. The spring warmed up with record heat in late May that initiated flowering. Cooler temperatures in June slowed flowering, but was followed by another heat spike that produced a slightly later and higher-than-average fruit set. With a warm 2017 vintage, we were able to deliver fruit with a great balance of sugar and acid with lower than average alcohols and abundant tannins." — Executive Winemaker, Don Lange

VARIETAL 100% syrah

APPELLATION Umpqua Valley

ALCOHOL 13.4%

PRODUCTION 48 cases

FERMENTATION & AGING 11 months in French and American oak

AROMAS blackberry, black cherry, game, sweet tobacco, lavender

FLAVORS blackberry, plum and subtle earthiness

BODY fruit-driven and polished, with velvety tannins

FINISH woodspice, pink peppercorn, dried herbs, cedar

RETAIL \$45

ACCOLADES 2020 - 90 Points - Owen Bargreen