



2006 Canis Major Petite Sirah

Petite Sirah has been planted in the Dry Creek Valley for decades and it is often used as a blending grape for Zinfandel, as small amounts can add dark color and tannic backbone. On its own, it can produce intense, inky, well structured wine with dark berry fruit.

2006 Vintage

*GOLD MEDAL • 2009 SF Chronicle Wine Competition
GOLD MEDAL • 2009 Orange County Wine Competition
GOLD MEDAL • 2009 SF International Wine Competition,
Silver Medal • 2009 San Diego Wine Competition
Silver Medal • 2009 National Women's Wine Competition
Silver Medal - 2009 Dallas Morning News Wine Competition*

2005 Vintage

*Silver Medal - 2008 LA International Wine Competition
Silver Medal - 2008 SF International Wine Competition*

Perotti & Unti Vineyards, Dry Creek Valley

We source our Canis Major Zinfandel from Perotti Vineyard and Syrah from Unti Vineyard. Both vineyards have small blocks of Petite Sirah planted along side the more well known Zinfandel and Syrah grapes. Brenda talked to both Bruce Perotti and George Unti for the first time in 2005 about getting some "pets" (what the old time growers call the grape) and both provided her with a little over 1/2 ton. We liked the irony of buying a grape called "pets" given our Mutt Lynch name.

Brenda's Winemaking

Fermentation took place in two open top 1 ton fermenters, with 3 times per day punch-downs. The wine was barreled down dirty and malolactic fermentation took place in barrel. Brenda's oak regime was 100% used one and two year old French oak barrels as she wanted to minimize the extraction of tannins from the wood, yet still layer in some nice oak character. The wine spent 23 months in barrel before its August bottling.

Tasting Notes

Inky, purple color so typical of Petite Sirah. Ultra ripe boysenberry and blackberry fruit literally explodes in the wine's aroma and entry. The wine has a lush, fruit driven mouth-feel that is all about ripe fruit and ripe tannins. The tannic structure again so typical of Petite Sirah "sneaks up" and creates a mouth filling, extra long finish. The tannins are ripe and plush, and truly complement the ultra ripe fruit flavors of the wine.



Information

Vintage:	2006
Appellation:	Dry Creek Valley
Vineyards:	Perotti, Unti Vyds
Alcohol:	15%
Produced:	110 cases



The constellation 'Canis Major' is famous the world over; resembling a large dog, it is known as 'The Greater Dog'. Canis Major seems a fitting name for our "big dog" wines.

Brenda & Chris Lynch, Owners

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