



2006 Canis Major Syrah

Of all our Canis Major wines, the Unti Vineyard Syrah is the one with a "wild" side. We think of it as our Marilyn Monroe wine - seductive and sexy, full and voluptuous - where dark, ripe fruit and French oak combine into something special.

2006 Vintage

*GOLD MEDAL • 2010 National Womens Wine Competition
Silver Medal • 2009 Sonoma County Harvest Fair*

2005 Vintage

*GOLD MEDAL • 2009 Grand Harvest Awards
Silver Medal • 2009 SF International Wine Competition
Silver Medal • 2008 Sonoma County Harvest Fair
Silver Medal • 2009 SF Chronicle Wine Competition*

2004 Vintage

DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL - 2007 Sonoma County Harvest Fair

Unti Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley

George Unti farms a diverse vineyard along Dry Creek Valley's eastern half and we are excited to be into "year five" of our Syrah adventure with him. Syrah is a relative newcomer to Dry Creek Valley and our block (3 rows totaling 186 vines) was planted in the mid 1990's. The block is located in the lower section of George's vineyard near the Dry Creek, and has thin sandy loam soils with divergerating rootstock that limit yields to 2.5 to 3 tons per acre.

Brenda's Winemaking

Fermentation took place in an open top tank, 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% French, with approximately 40% new Bel Air barrels. This marks the fourth year that Brenda has used Bel Air cooperage for her Syrah, and it shows in the wine's flavors and structure. Bel Air oak extraction is subtle yet provides wonderful, complex wood flavors and tannins. The wine spent 23 months in barrel before its August 2008 bottling.

Tasting Notes

Seductive aromas of wild strawberry jam. Definitely ripe red fruits for this vintage; always 'wild' in the sense of the hint of herbs and spice that complex the wine's core fruit expression. A full entry, mouth-filling with sweet viscosity and ripe tannins. A broad, full-bodied finish with chewy tannins. The wine is still quite young in its evolution.



Information

Vintage:	2006
Appellation:	Dry Creek Valley
Vineyard:	Unti Vineyard
Alcohol:	15.5%
Produced:	192 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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