



THE STEVEN KENT WINERY

5443 TESLA ROAD, LIVERMORE VALLEY, CA 94550 | (925) 243-6442

WWW.STEVENKENT.COM

## 2015 “60 FOOT MURAL” PETITE SIRAH LIVERMORE VALLEY

### HARVEST NOTES

Despite the absence of rain at harvest and yet another year of drought conditions during the heart of the growing season, the 2015 vintage will be characterized by an hour's worth of hard rain in May that badly damaged blooming flowers on the vine and devastated yields across the State. Early ripening varieties such as Sauvignon Blanc were spared the greatest losses — the most heavily affected were the red Bordeaux varieties —and overall Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard produced only 69% of average. When yields are down, quality tends to rise, and 2015 was no exception. The quality of all of the Cabernet family of grapes was uniformly excellent, and we achieved desired ripeness at relatively low sugar levels. Grenache, Sauvignon Blanc, and Semillon also reached beautiful levels of maturity in the vineyard and have contributed to beautiful wines.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

The Collector's Circle features wines made from cultivars that are largely of Italian and Rhone origin. These wines are meant to be wines of distinction that are made to pair with food and be ready to drink younger than our Bordeaux-variety based wines. Started in 2003, the Collector's Circle has built a passionate audience for these small-lot wines usually made from fruit grown on our two estate vineyards Home Ranch and Ghielmetti. Sixty Foot Mural is a 100% offering of Petite Sirah from the Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard. This wine was purposely made in a style that was slightly more fruit-forward than is typical of Petite Sirah to accentuate the spectacular quality of the vintage and because we believe this style of wine to be appropriately food friendly and consistent with the offerings of the Collector's Circle. Assistant Winemaker, Craig Ploof, who created the final blend of this wine, favors a style that is authentic, appropriate to the nuances of fruit specific to the year. This wine was aged in mostly older French barrels for about 18 months.

### TASTING NOTES

2015 was one of the tougher of recent vintages to get fully ripe, but the 2015 Petite Sirah — one of our first reds to ripen — produced beautiful balanced and darkly colored fruit. The depth and hue of color is one of the first things to notice in this offering. Royally purple, the vision of richness is mirrored in the full aromatic palette of dark berry and dried herb. On entry, the typical flavors of dark berry, loamy soil, and subtle pumpkin notes are wrapped in a very pleasing structure of tannin and acidity. The wine is a touch austere through the mid (showing more structure than fruit), but on the long finish, the fruit of this Petite Sirah blossoms, fanning out over a broadly tannic back end. Stored well, this wine should continue to evolve beautifully for the next 5-10 years. Rich, slow-cooked dishes would serve this wine beautifully.

### VINEYARD SOURCE(S)

100% Petite Sirah from Ghielmetti Estate Vineyard, block 12.

### HARVEST DATA

October 2015 | pH 3.61 | TA 0.60 | Alcohol 14.2%

### FERMENTATION

Cold soaked for 5-7 days, primary fermentation and extended maceration lasted for more two weeks.

### COOPERAGE

Aged for 18 months in mostly used French oak barrels.

### CASES PRODUCED

135 cases

### RELEASE DATE

September 9, 2017

**ARTIST** “60 Foot Mural” was painted by R. Paine in 1969. The story behind it is that he was a friend of Jennifer's grandmother, Carmela Fazio, and she asked him to paint something for her. He said how about a 60 Foot Mural and she said sure, not knowing that she would get a painting of 60 feet. When Carmela passed away, Jennifer requested the painting as it was a unique reminder of her childhood. Needless to say, none of her cousins fought her for it!

